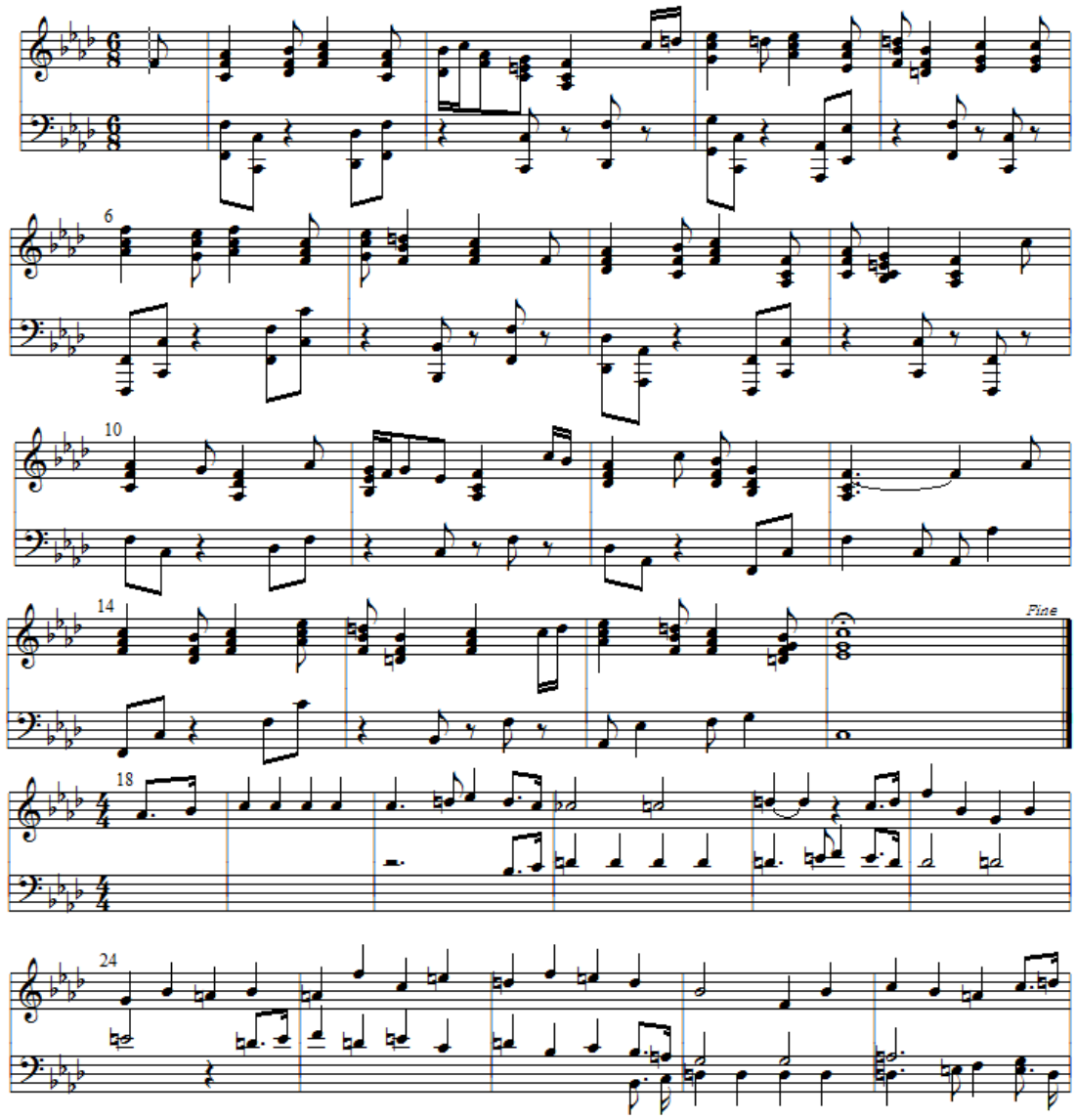
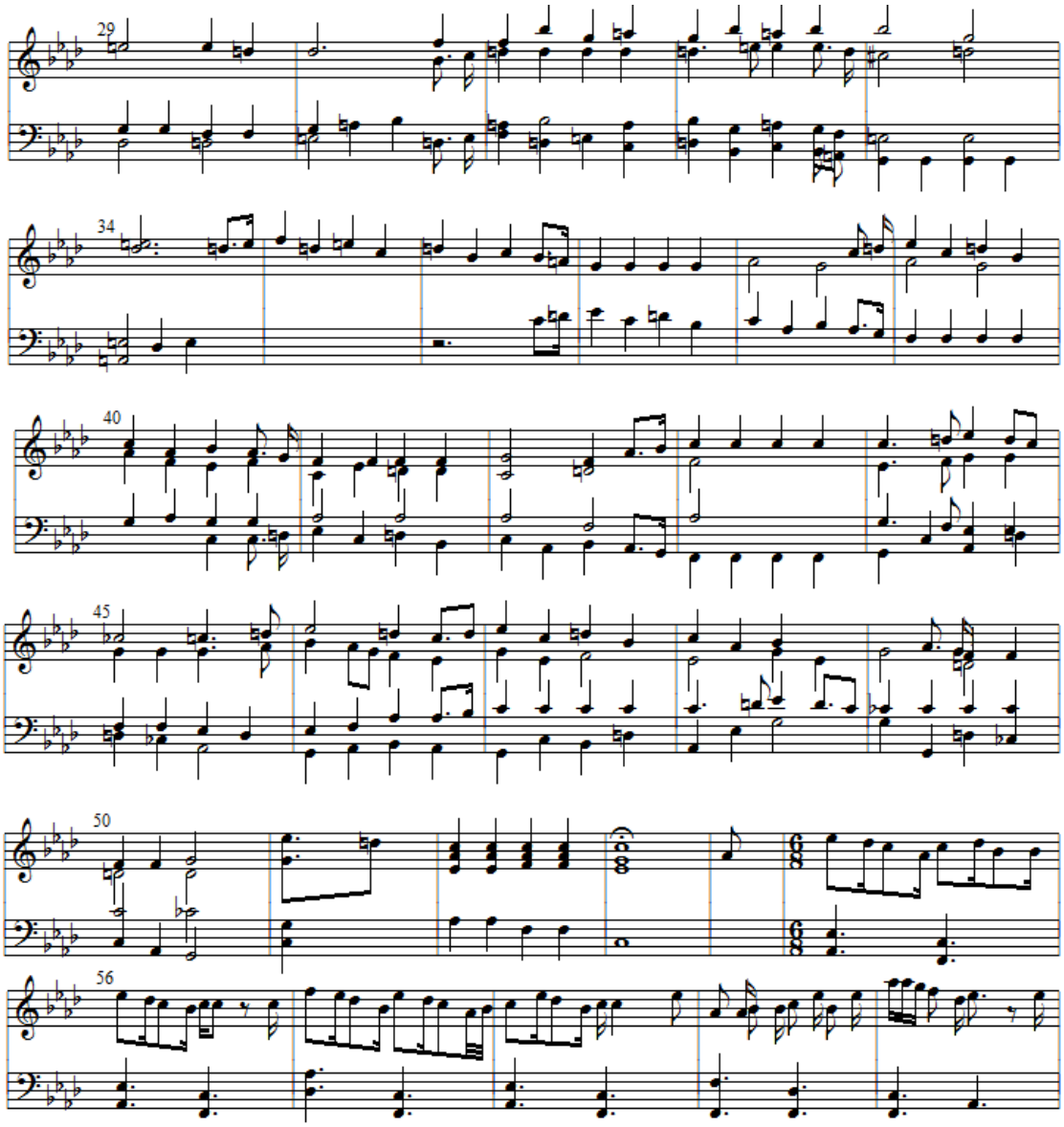
The Lion's Game

Text and Music by Dennis Werner © 2001

ACT I

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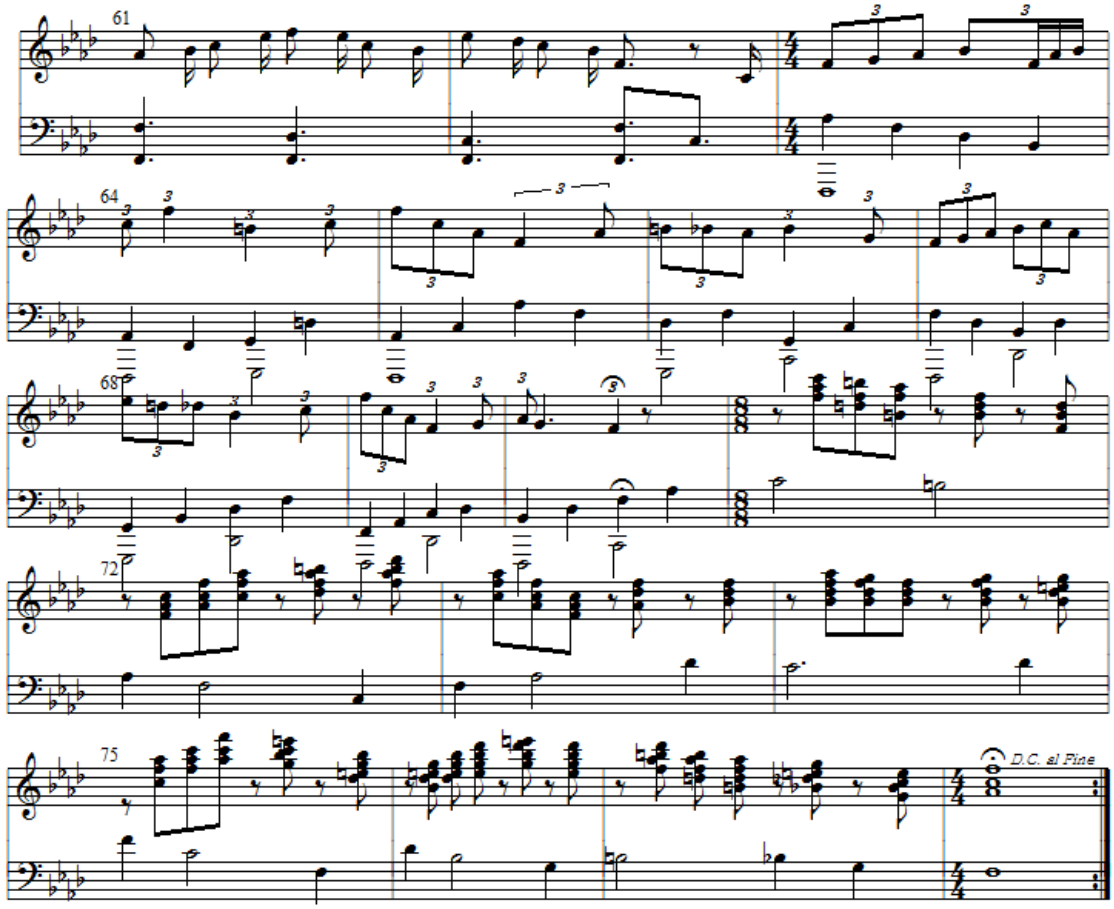
61
64
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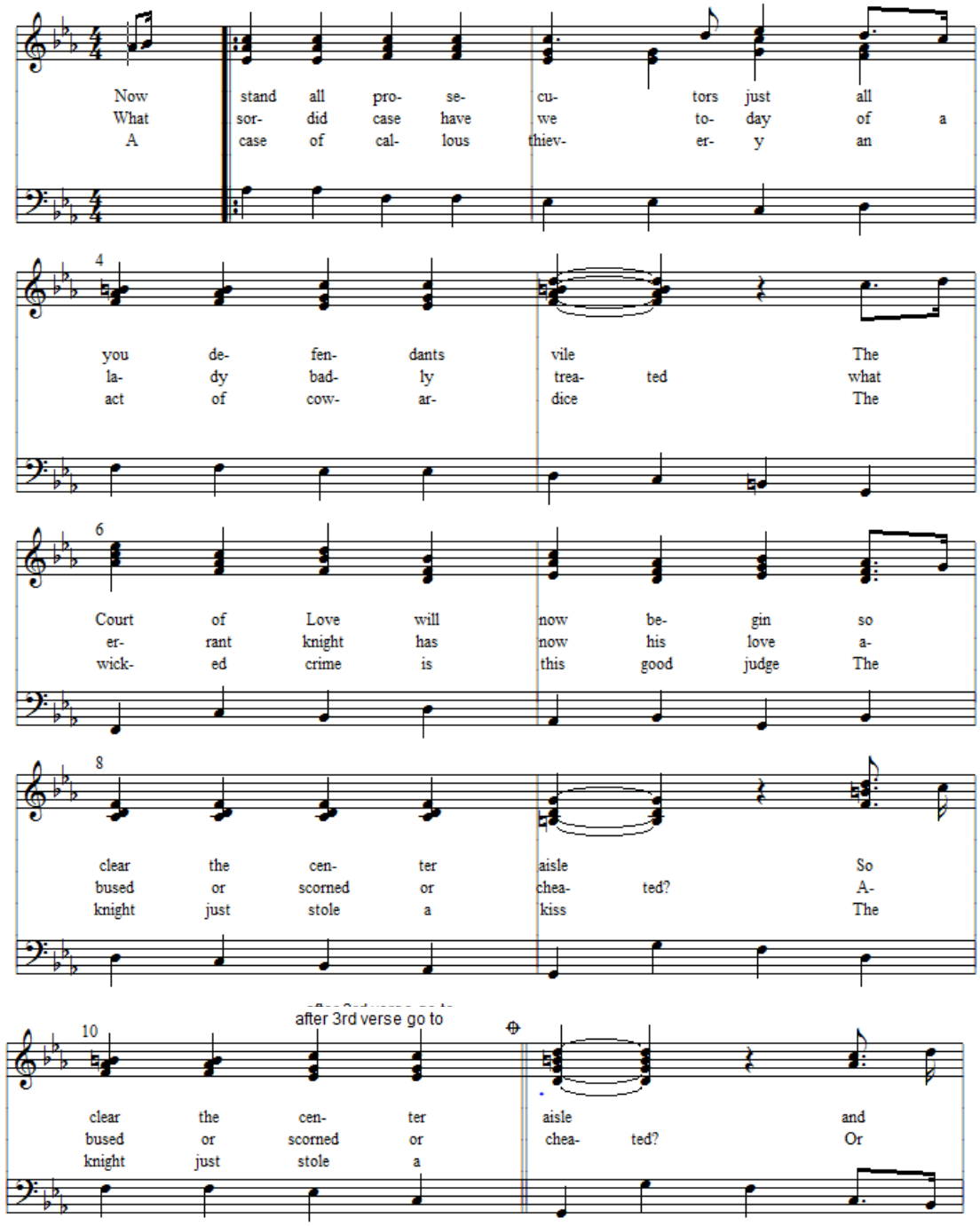
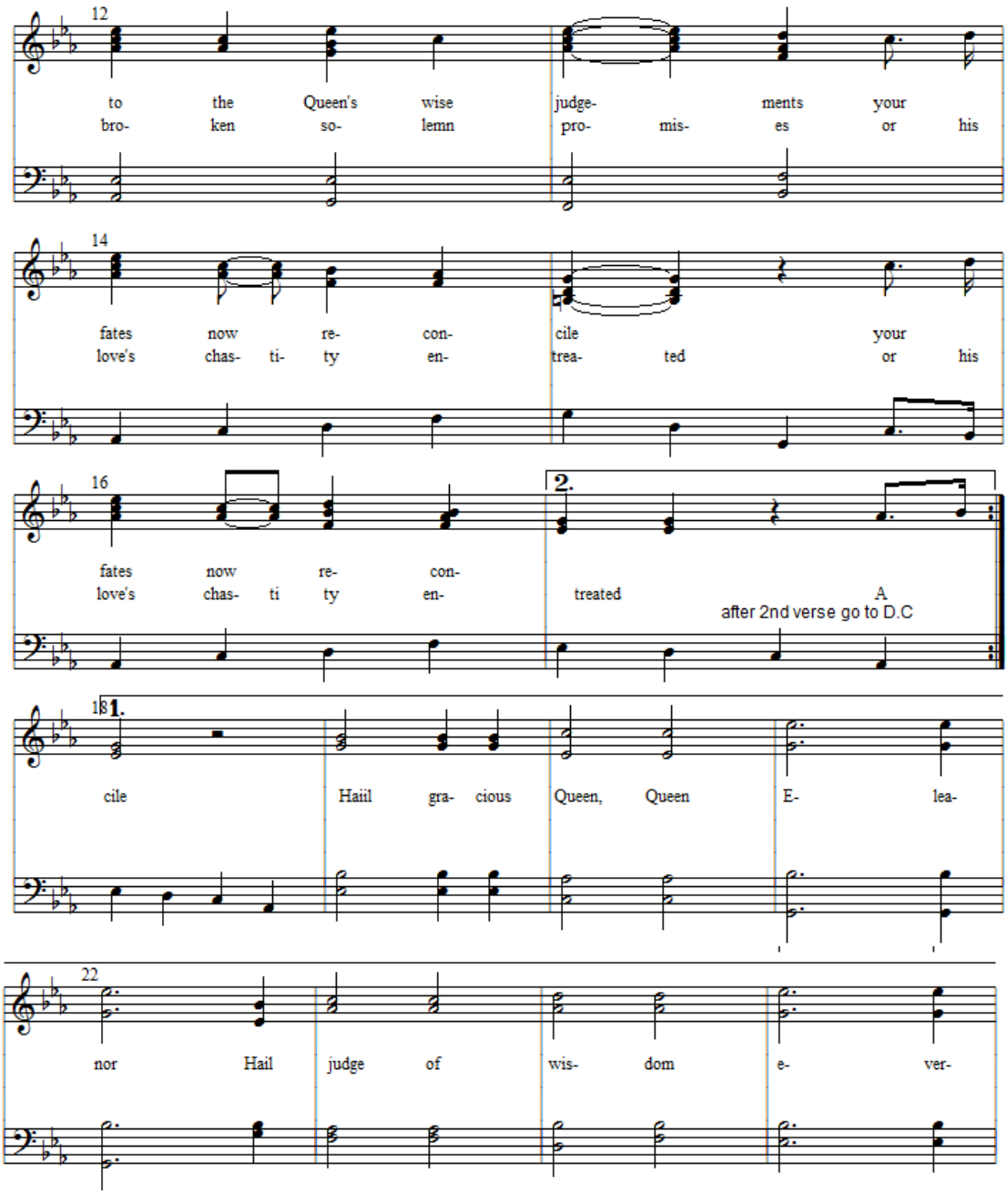
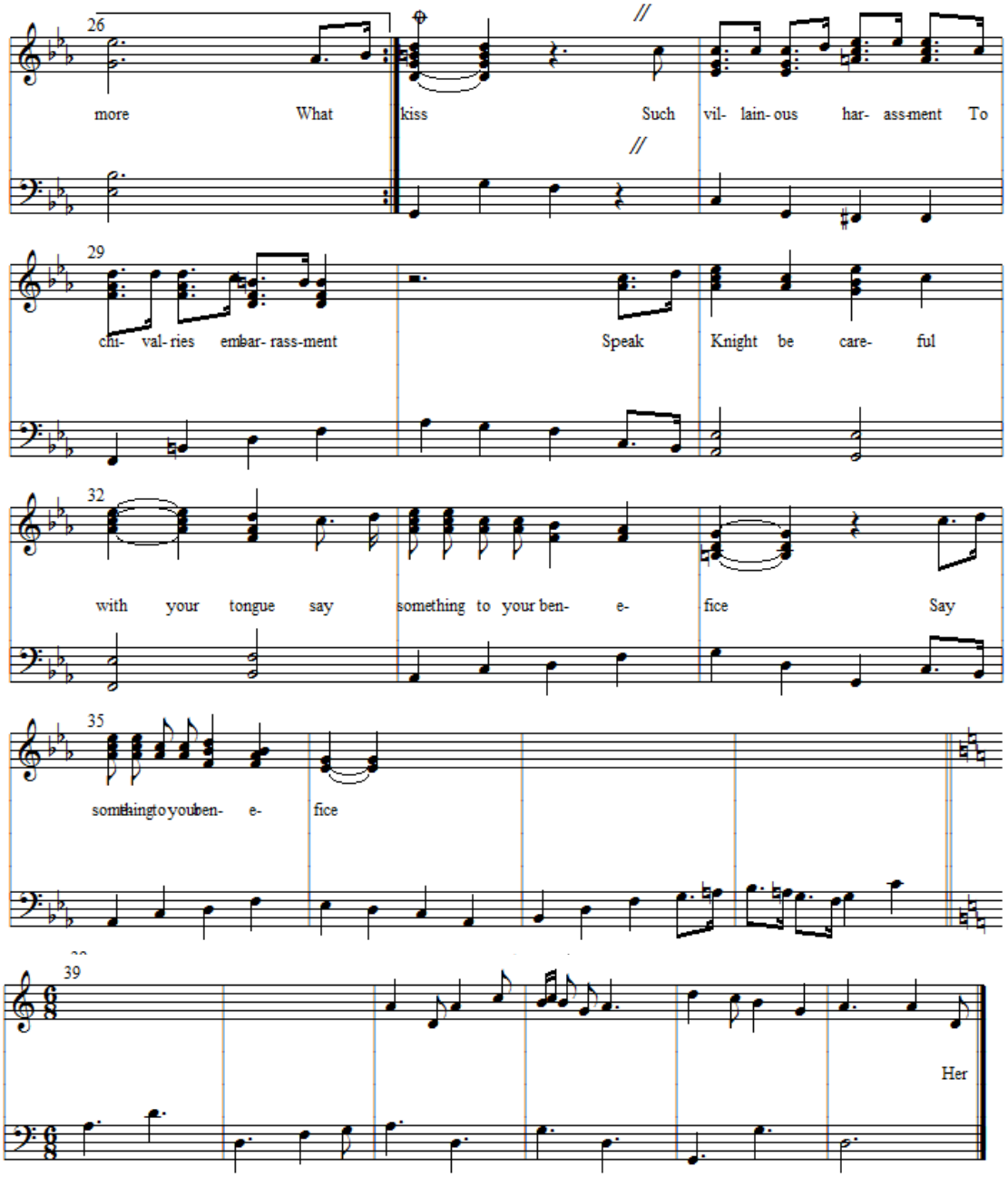
72
75
D.C. al Fine

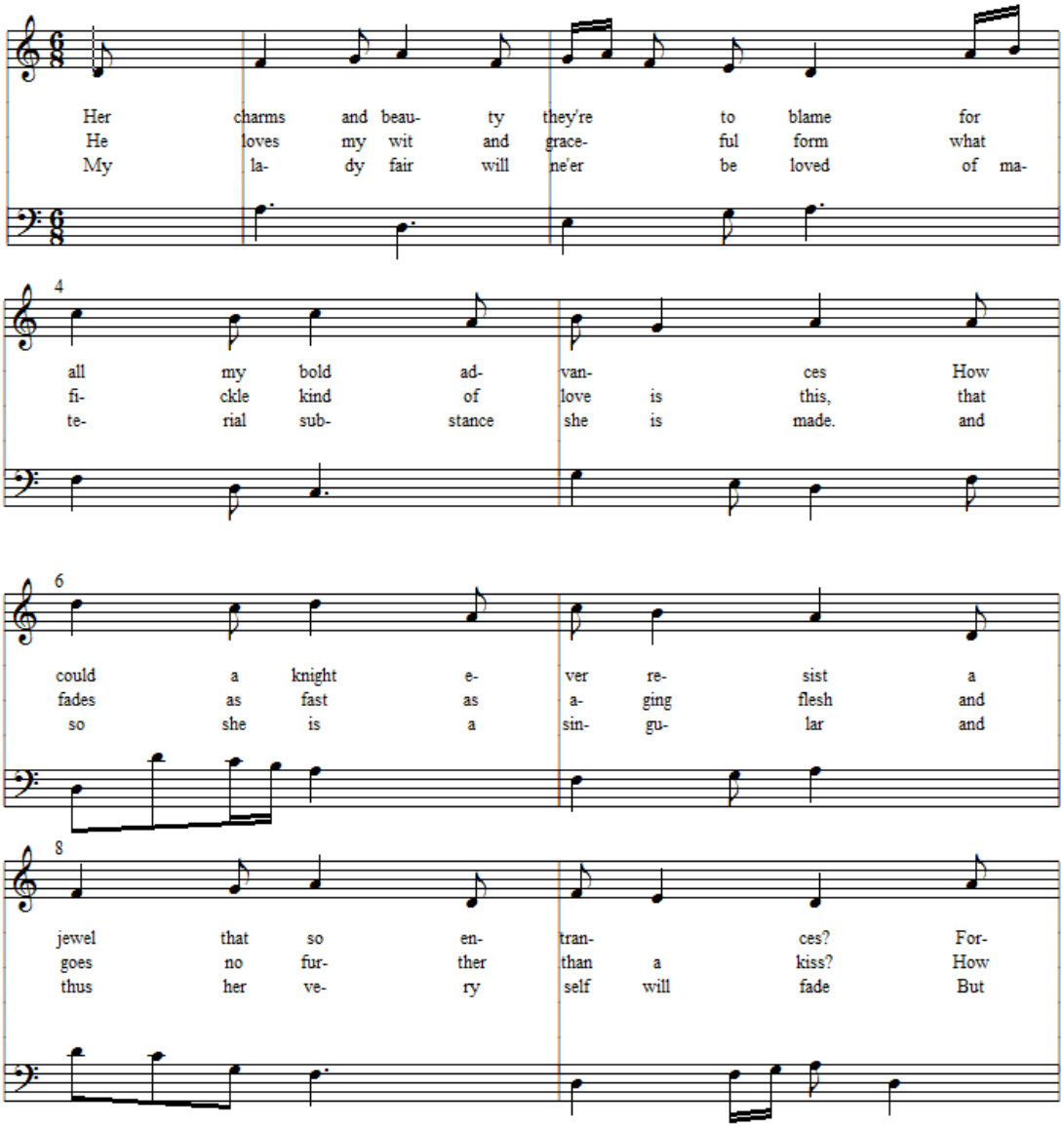
Court of Love

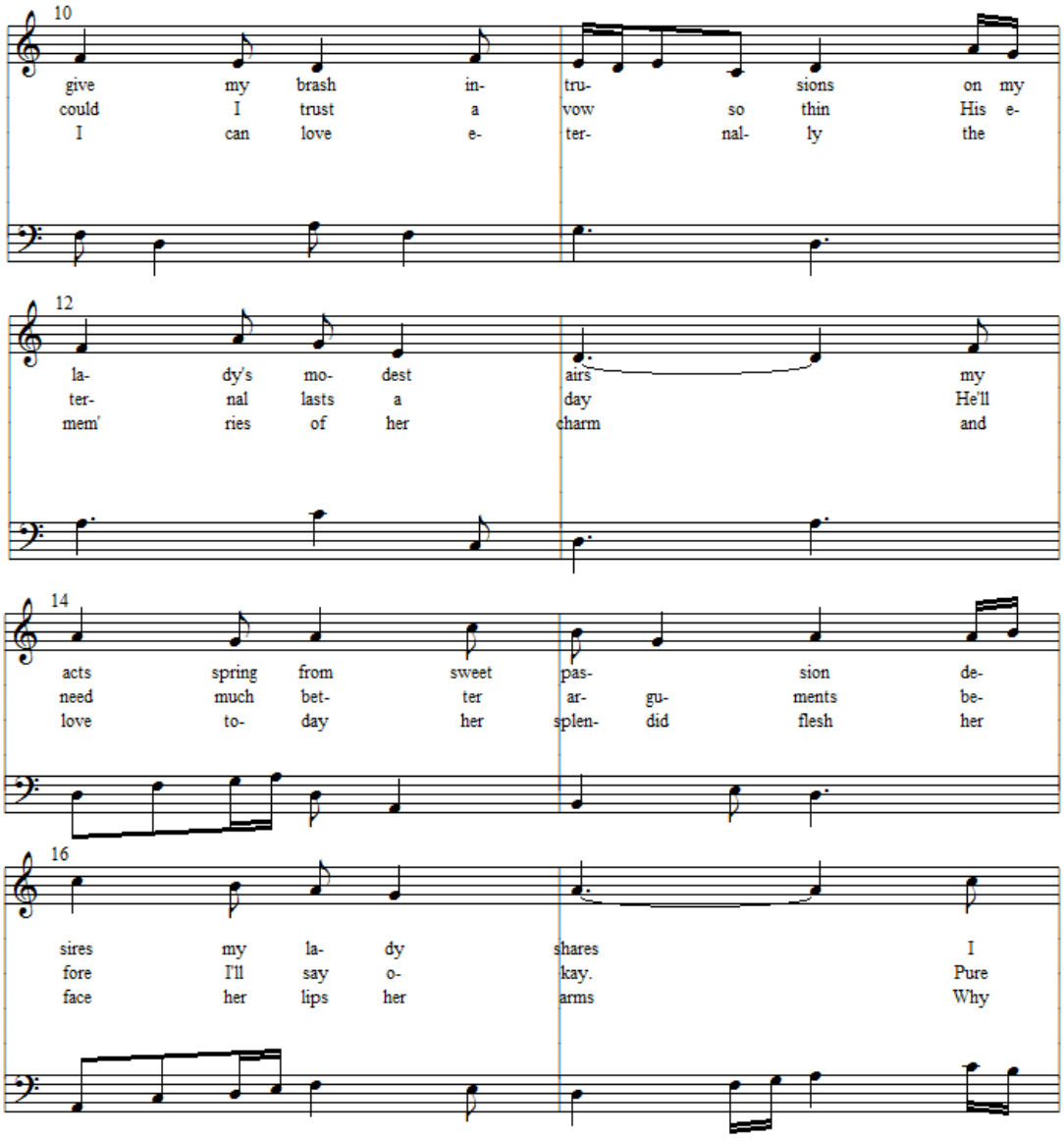


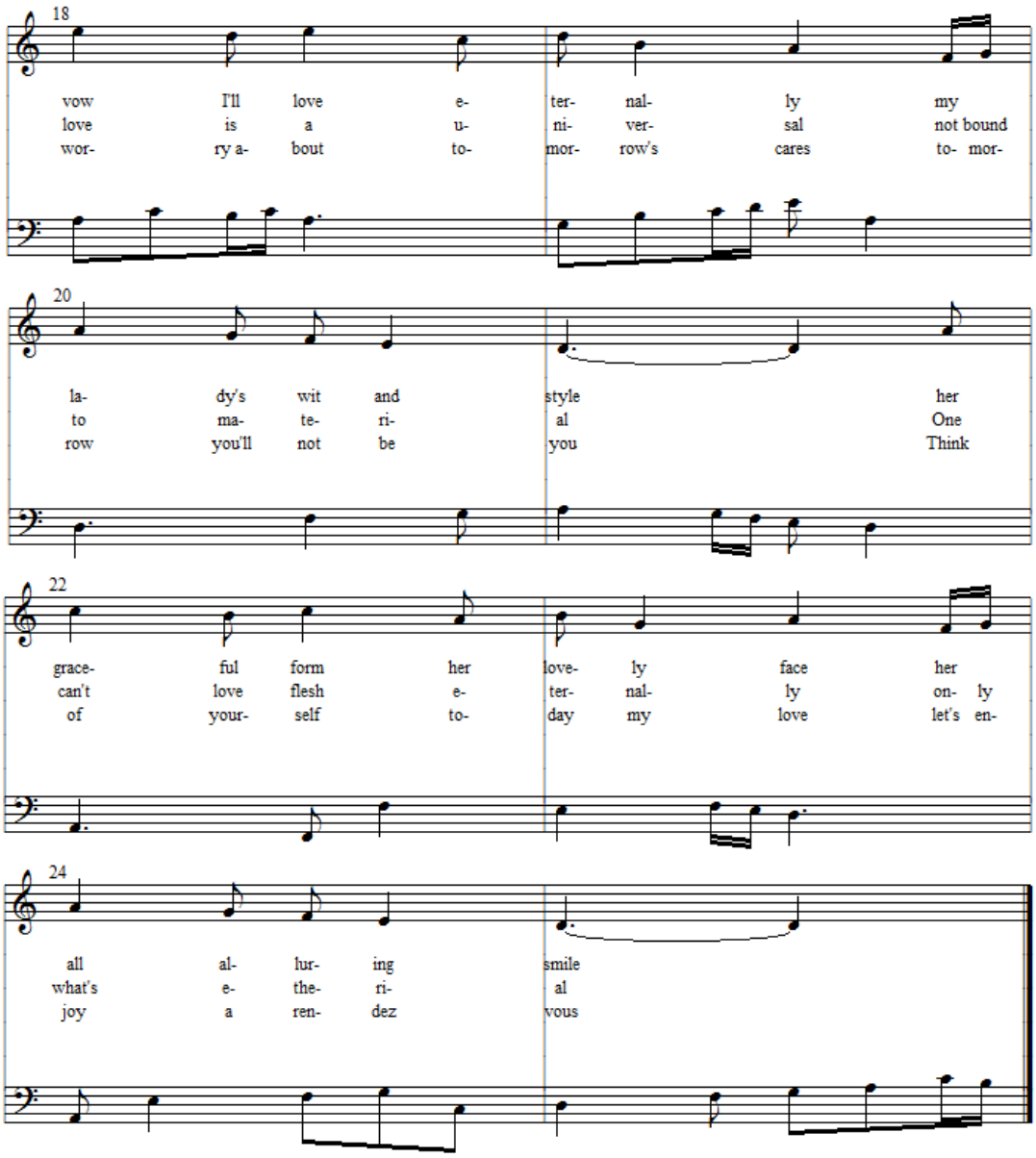

12
to the Queen's wise judge- ments your
bro- ken so- lemn pro- mis- es or his
14
fates now re- con- cile your
love's chas- ti- ty en- trea- ted or his
16
2.
fates now re- con-
love's chas- ti ty en- treated A
after 2nd verse go to D.C
18
1.
cile Haiil gra- cious Queen, Queen E- lea-
22
nor Hail judge of wis- dom e- ver-


26
more What kiss Such vil- lain- ous har- ass-ment To
29
chi- val- ries embar- rass-ment Speak Knight be care- ful
32
with your tongue say something to your ben- e- fice Say
35
something to you ben- e- fice
39
Her

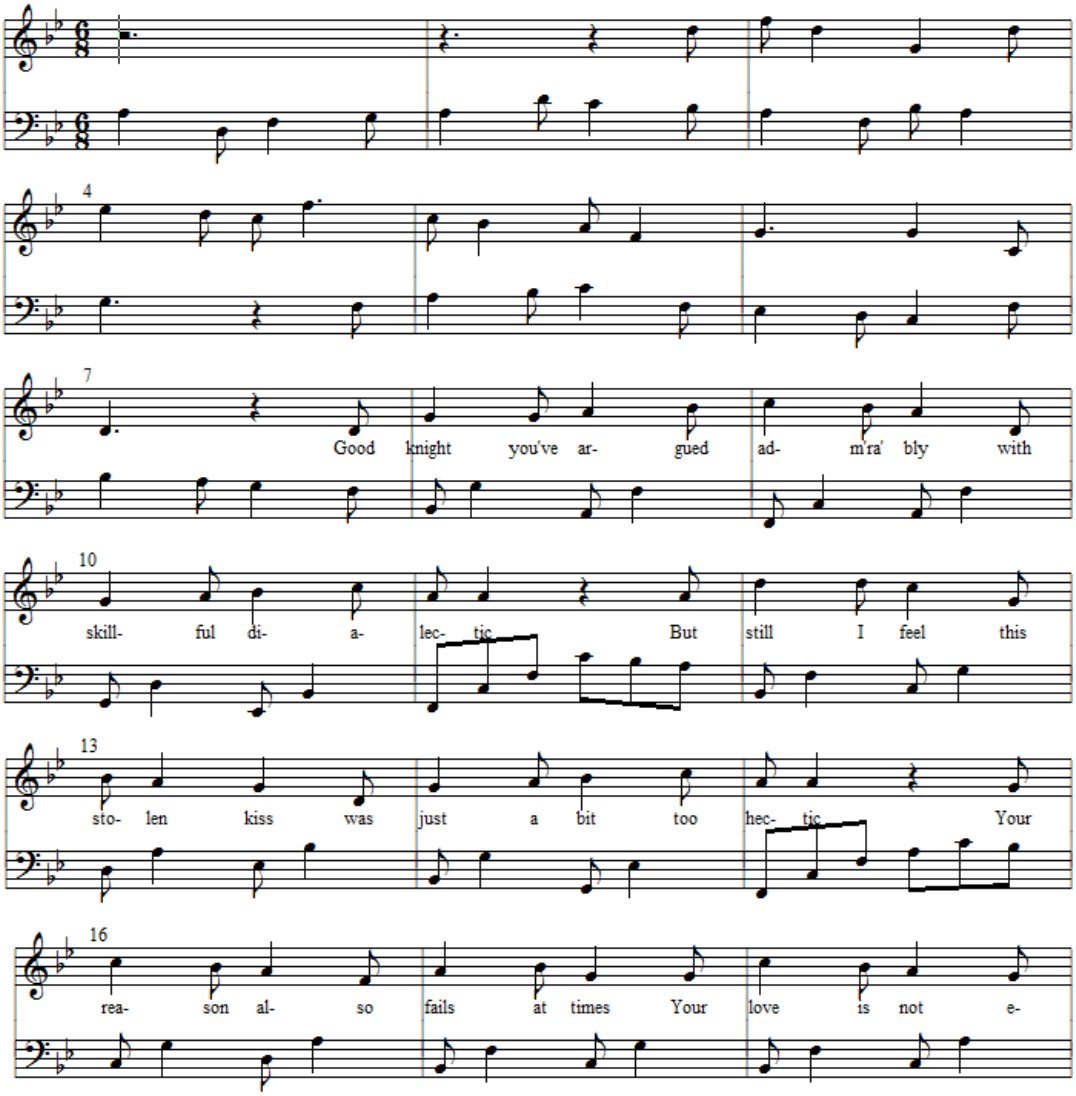
Charms

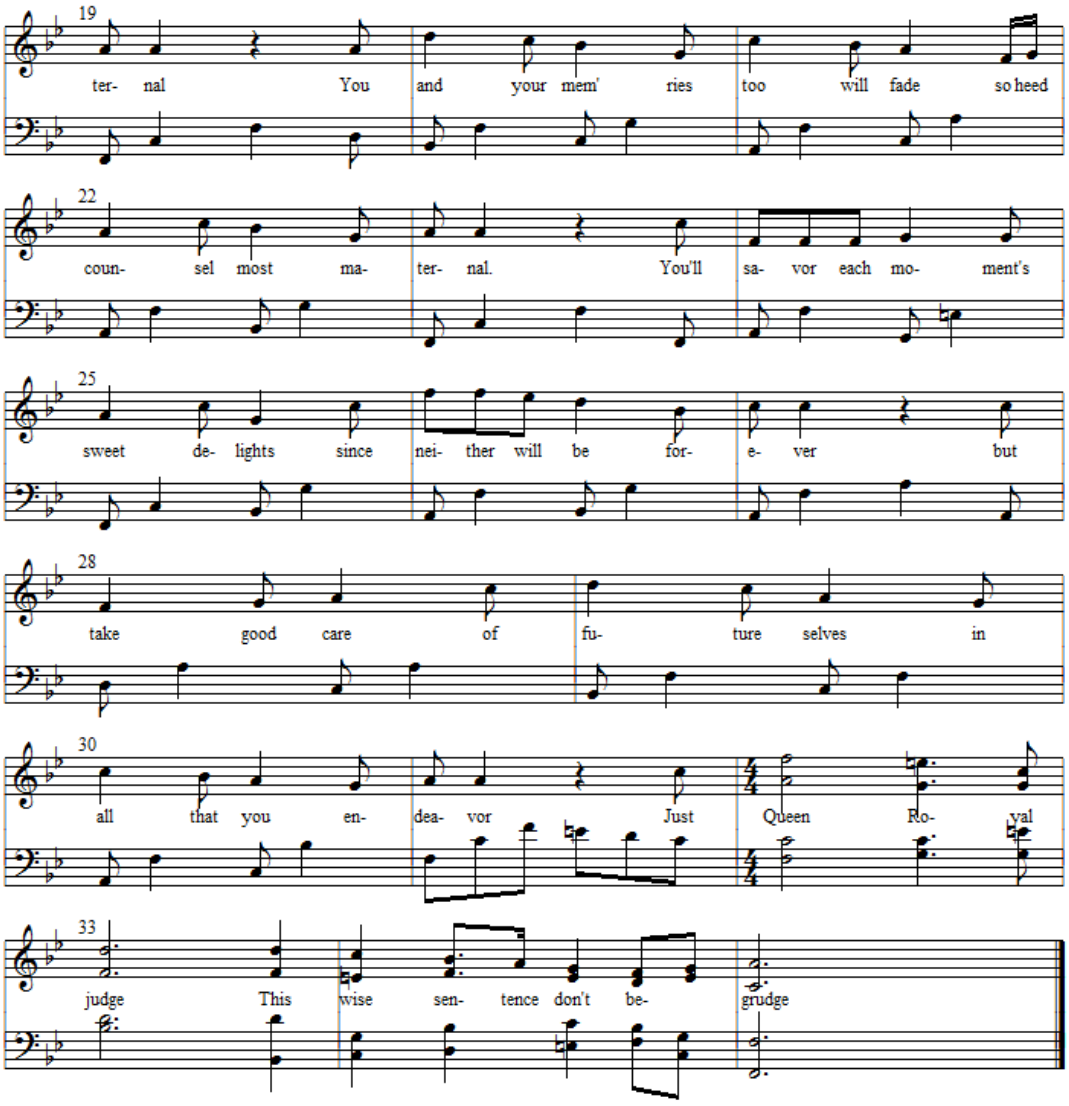

Her charms and beau- ty they're to blame for
He loves my wit and grace- ful form what
My la- dy fair will ne'er be loved of ma-
4
all my bold ad- van- ces How
fi- ckle kind of love is this, that
te- rial sub- stance she is made. and
6
could a knight e- ver re- sist a
fades as fast as a- ging flesh and
so she is a sin- gu- lar and
8
jewel that so en- tran- ces? For-
goes no fur- ther than a kiss? How
thus her ve- ry self will fade But


10
give my brash in- tru- sions on my
could I trust a vow so thin His e-
I can love e- ter- nal- ly the
12
la- dy's mo- dest airs my
ter- nal lasts a day He'll
mem' ries of her charm and
14
acts spring from sweet pas- sion de-
need much bet- ter ar- gu- ments be-
love to- day her splen- did flesh her
16
sires my la- dy shares I
fore I'll say o- kay. Pure
face her lips her arms Why

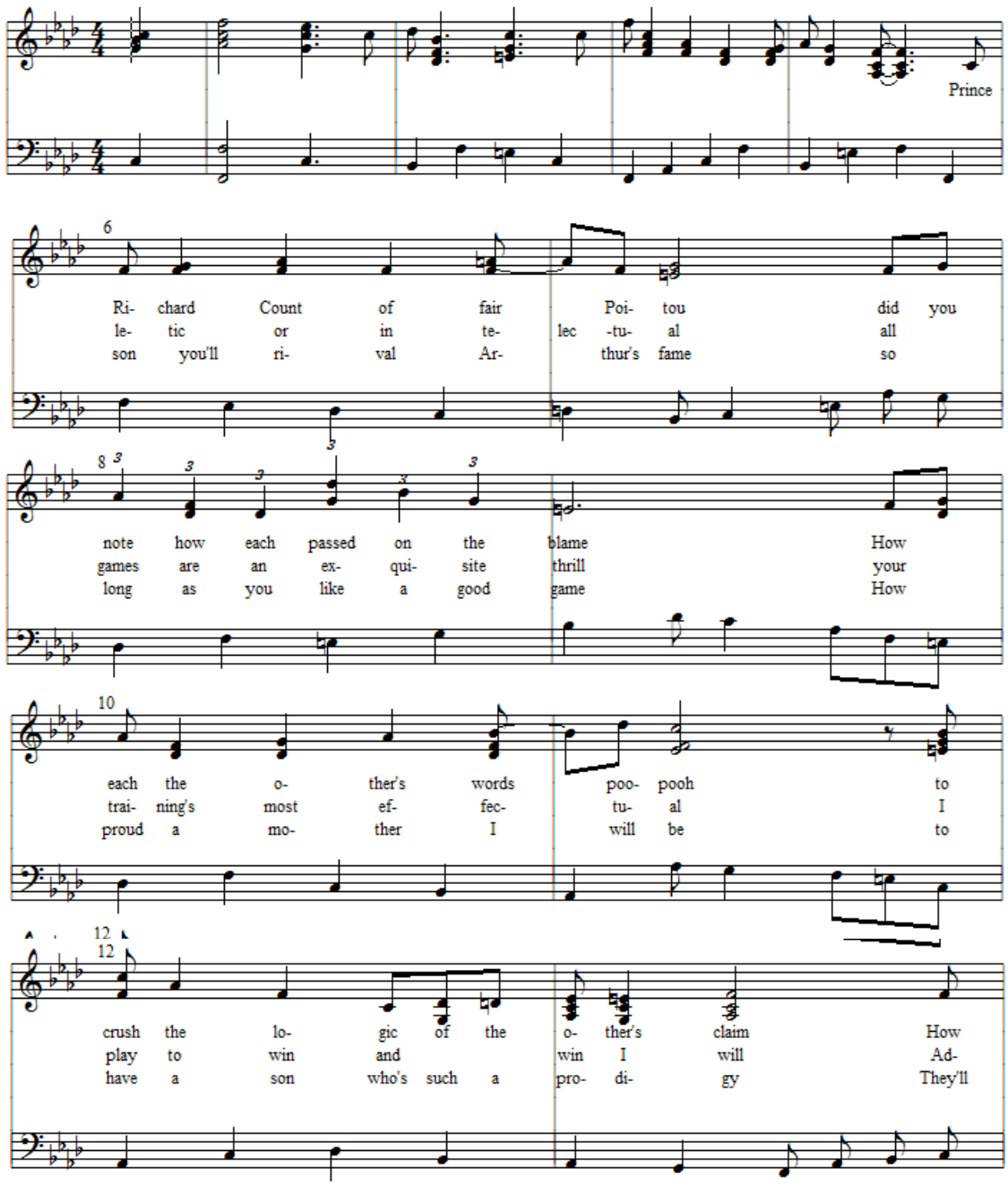

18
vow I'll love e- ter- nal- ly my
love is a u- ni- ver- sal not bound
wor- ry a- bout to- mor- row's cares to- mor-
20
la- dy's wit and style her
to ma- te- ri- al One
row you'll not be you Think
22
grace- ful form her love- ly face her
can't love flesh e- ter- nal- ly on- ly
of your- self to- day my love let's en-
24
all al- lur- ing smile
what's e- the- ri- al
joy a ren- dez vous

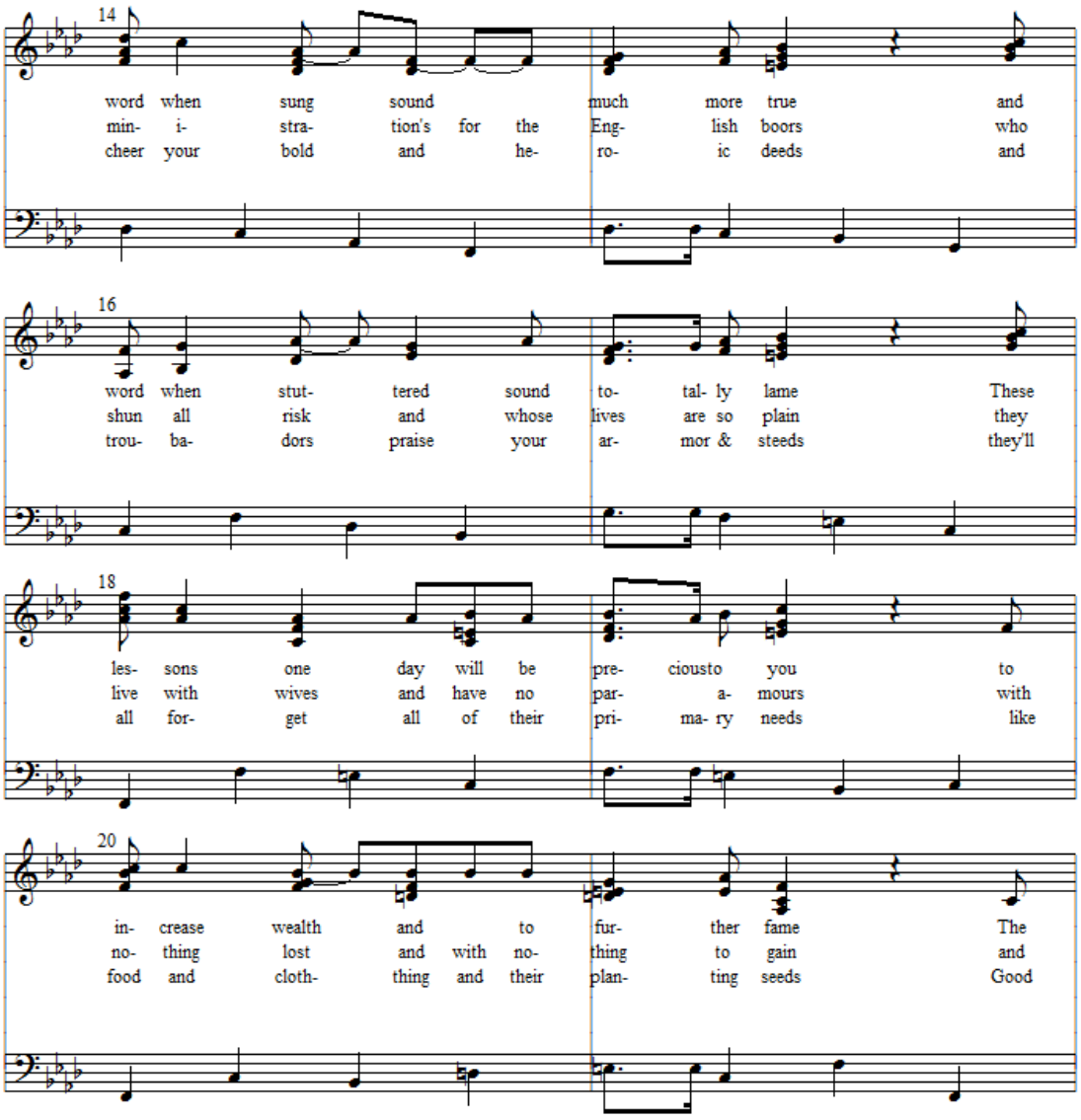
Good Knight you've argued admirably

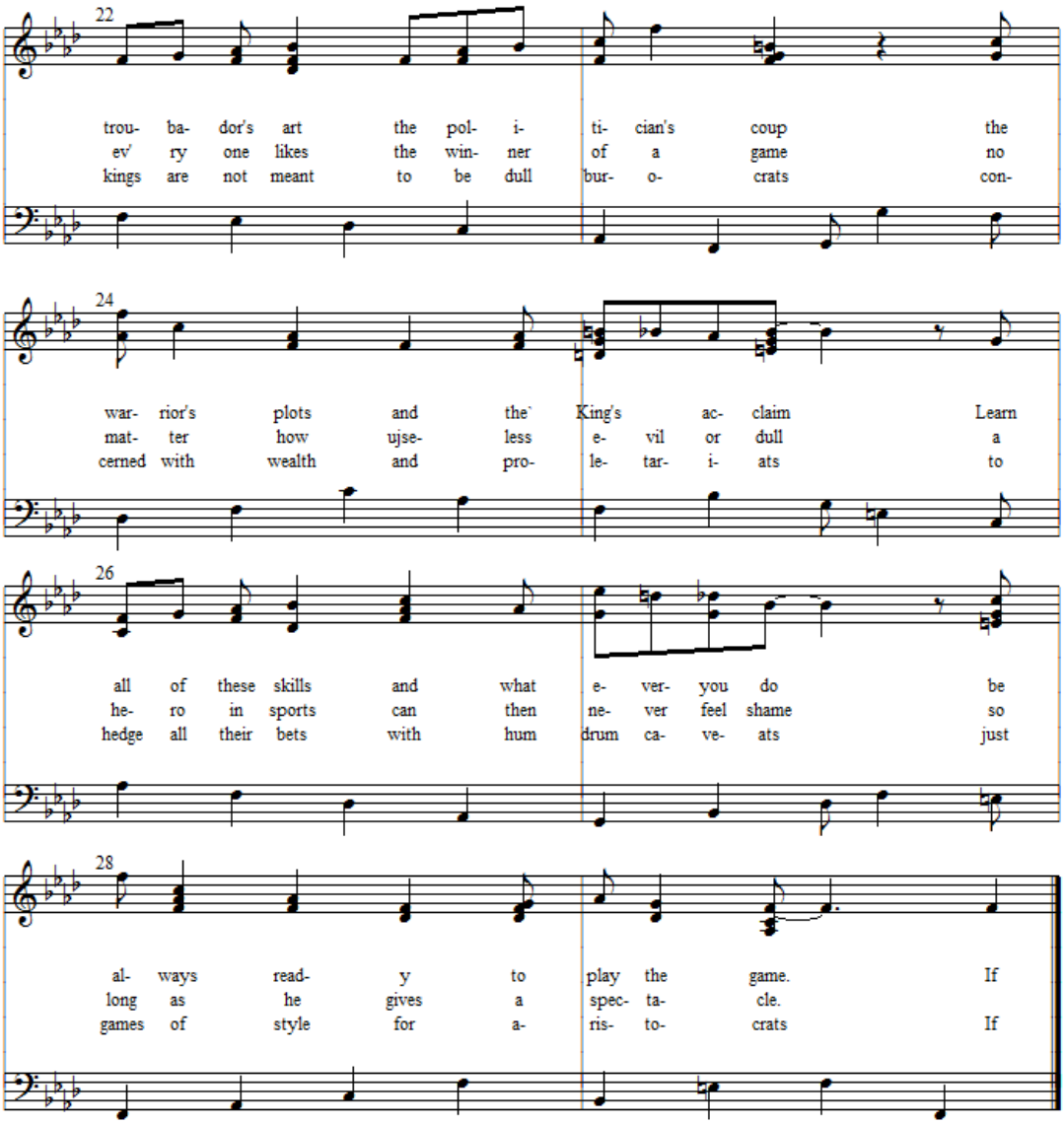


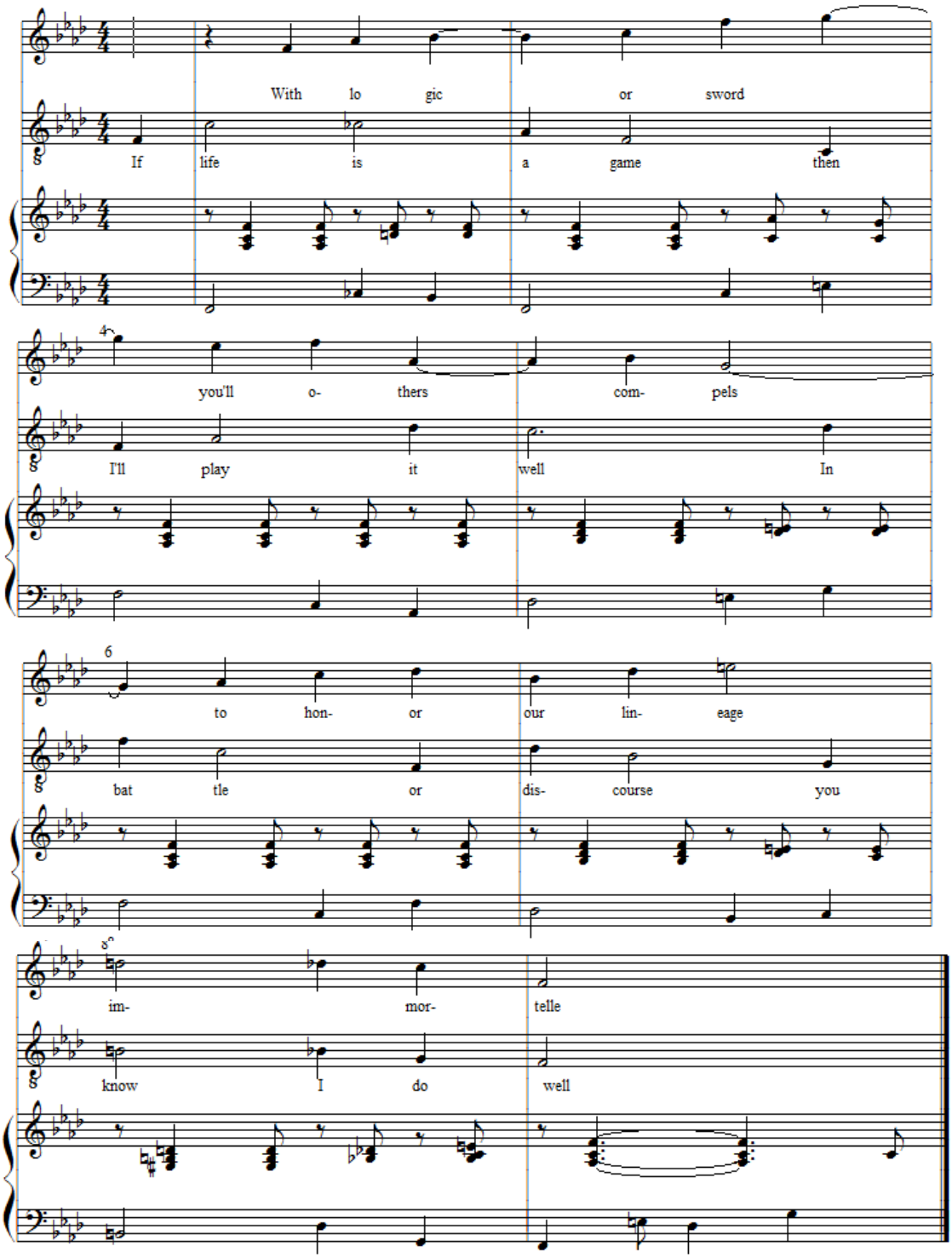

19
ter- nal You and your mem' ries too will fade so heed
22
coun- sel most ma- ter- nal. You'll sa- vor each mo- ment's
25
sweet de- lights since nei- ther will be for- e- ver but
28
take good care of fu- ture selves in
30
all that you en- dea- vor Just Queen Ro- yal
33
judge This wise sen- tence don't be- grudge

Games

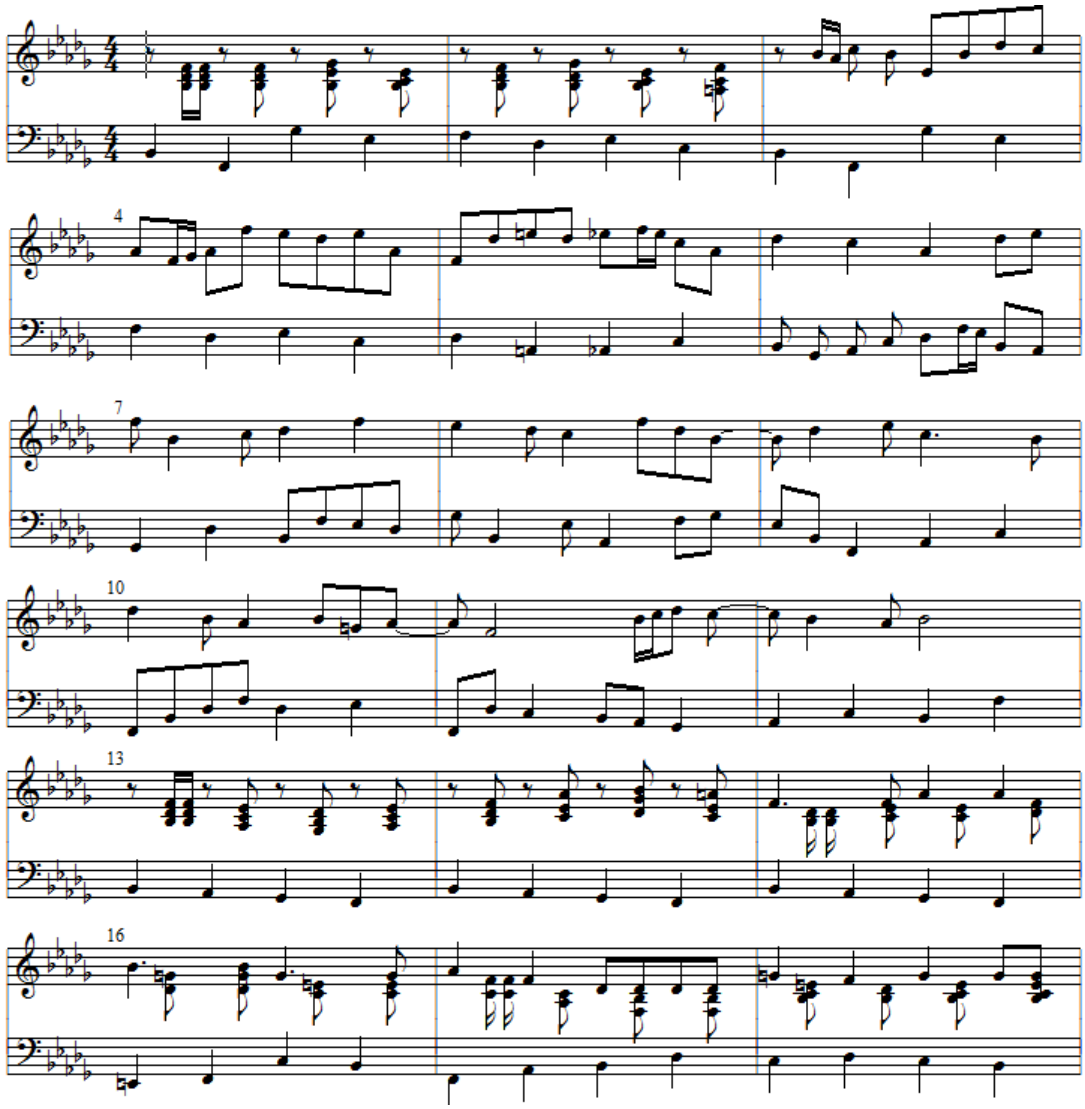

Prince
6
Ri- chard Count of fair Poi- tou did you
le- tic or in te- lec -tu- al all
son you'll ri- val Ar- thur's fame so
8
note how each passed on the blame How
games are an ex- qui- site thrill your
long as you like a good game How
10
each the o- ther's words poo- pooh to
trai- ning's most ef- fec- tu- al I
proud a mo- ther I will be to
12
12
crush the lo- gic of the o- ther's claim How
play to win and win I will Ad-
have a son who's such a pro- di- gy They'll

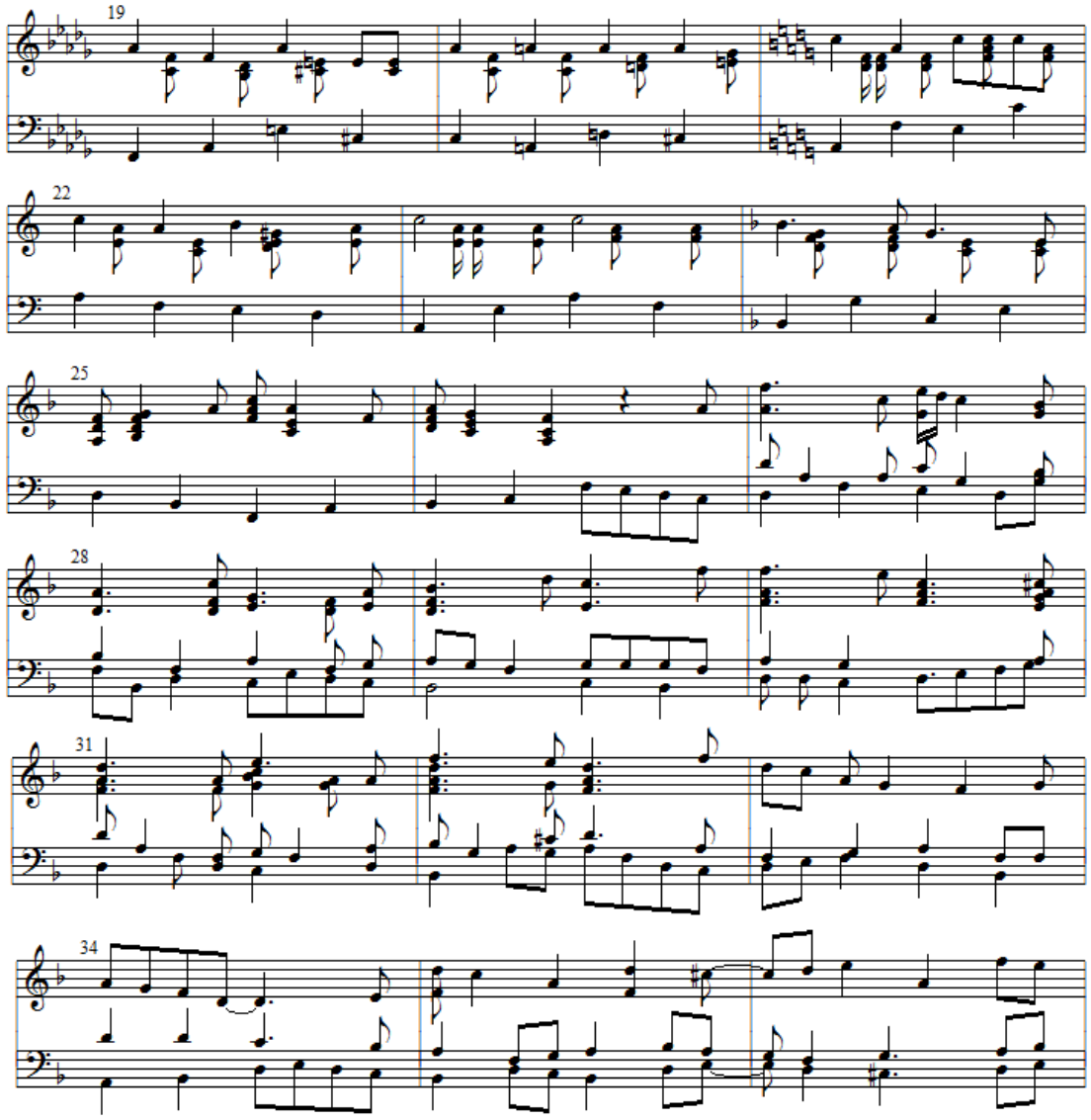

14
word when sung sound much more true and
min- i- stra- tion's for the Eng- lish boors who
cheer your bold and he- ro- ic deeds and
16
word when stut- tered sound to- tal- ly lame These
shun all risk and whose lives are so plain they
trou- ba- dors praise your ar- mor & steeds they'll
18
les- sons one day will be pre- ciousto you to
live with wives and have no par- a- mours with
all for- get all of their pri- ma- ry needs like
20
in- crease wealth and to fur- ther fame The
no- thing lost and with no- thing to gain and
food and cloth- thing and their plan- ting seeds Good


22
trou- ba- dor's art the pol- i- ti- cian's coup the
ev' ry one likes the win- ner of a game no
kings are not meant to be dull bur- o- crats con-
24
war- rior's plots and the' King's ac- claim Learn
mat- ter how ujse- less e- vil or dull a
cerned with wealth and pro- le- tar- i- ats to
26
all of these skills and what e- ver- you do be
he- ro in sports can then ne- ver feel shame so
hedge all their bets with hum drum ca- ve- ats just
28
al- ways read- y to play the game. If
long as he gives a spec- ta- cle.
games of style for a- ris- to- crats If


With lo gic or sword
If life is a game then
you'll o- thers com- pels
I'll play it well In
to hon- or our lin- eage
bat tle or dis- course you
im- mor- telle
know I do well

Act II

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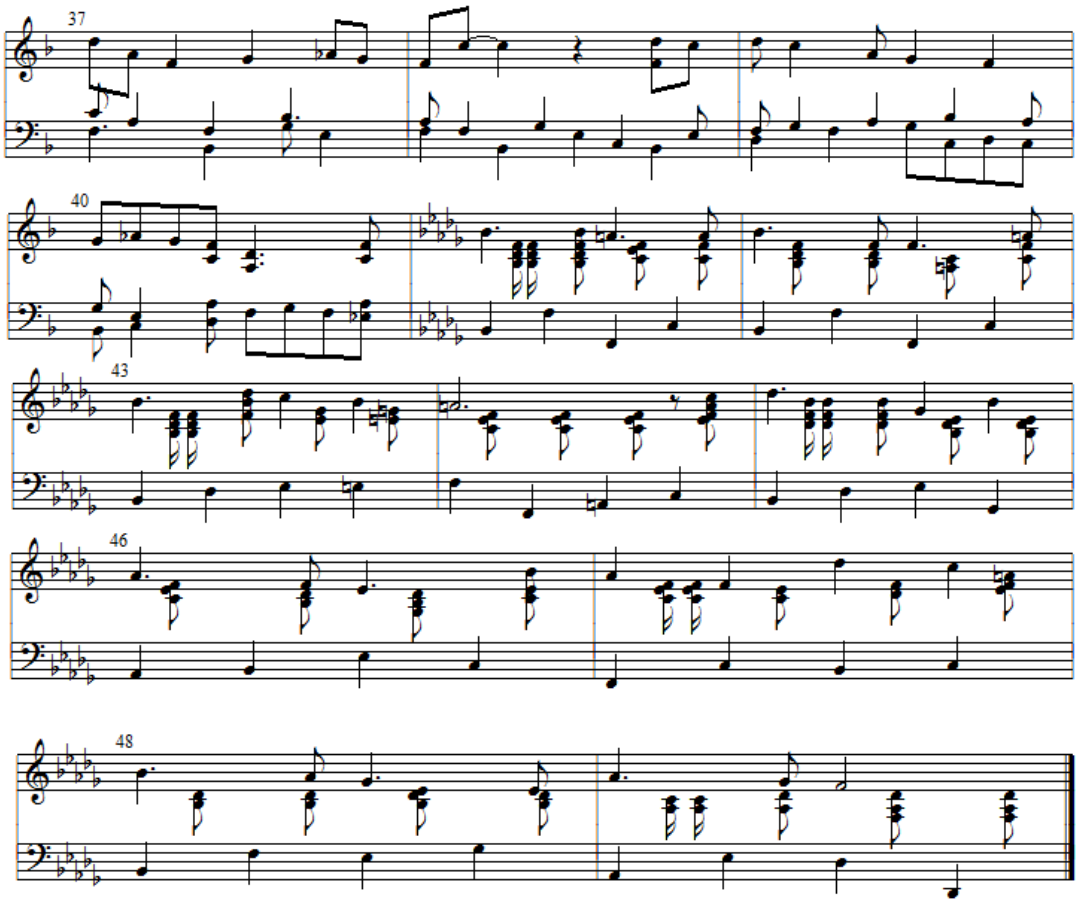
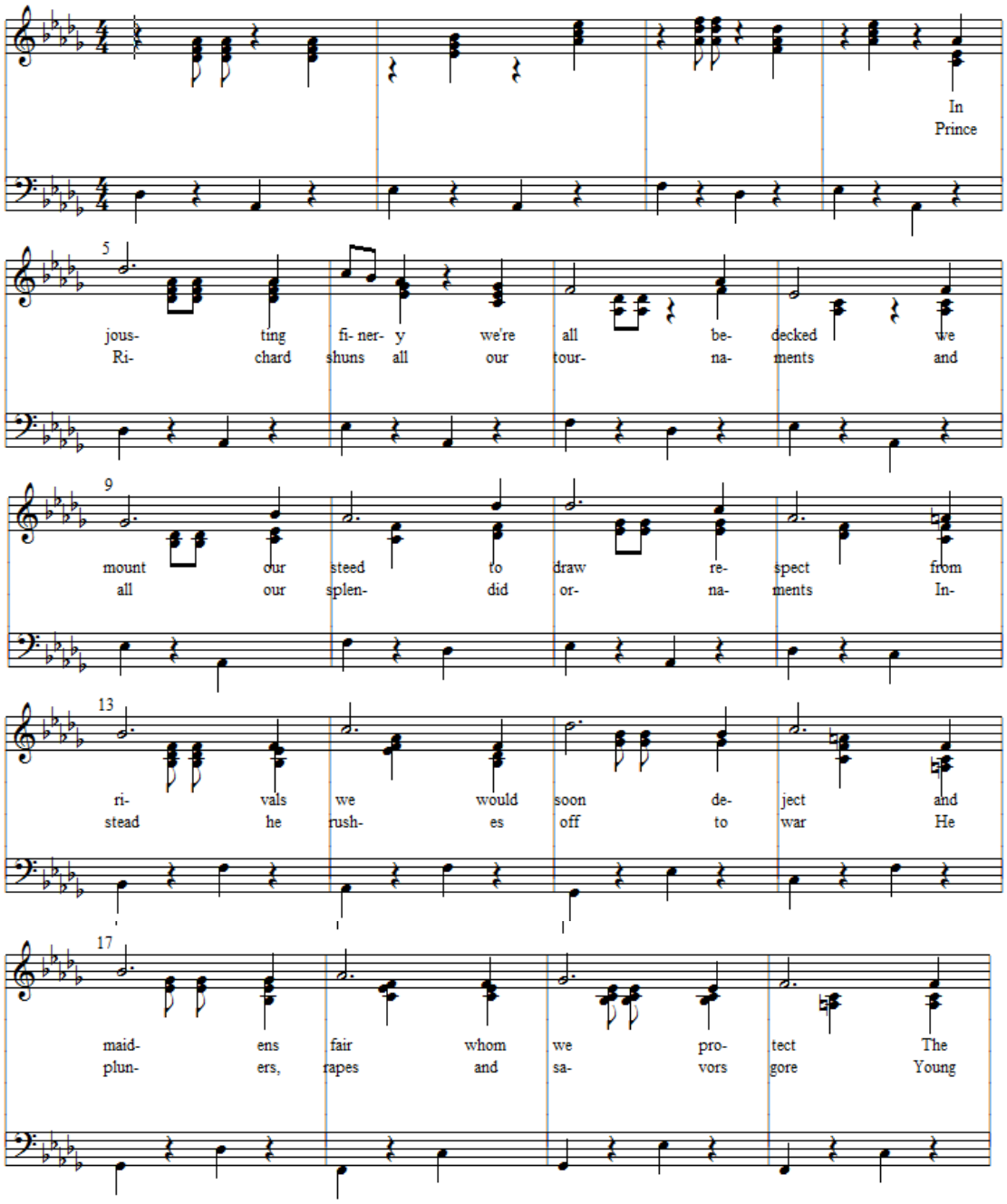
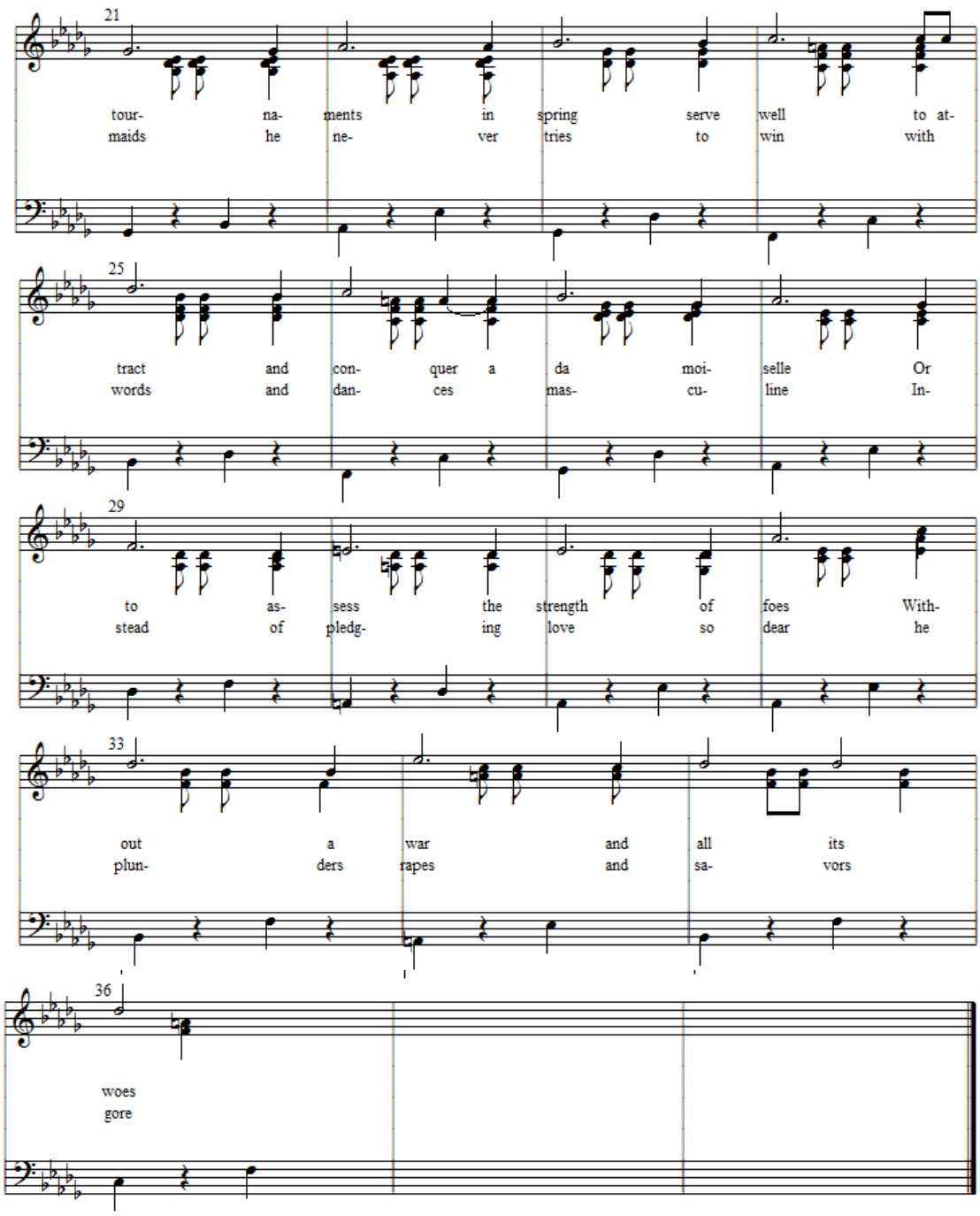
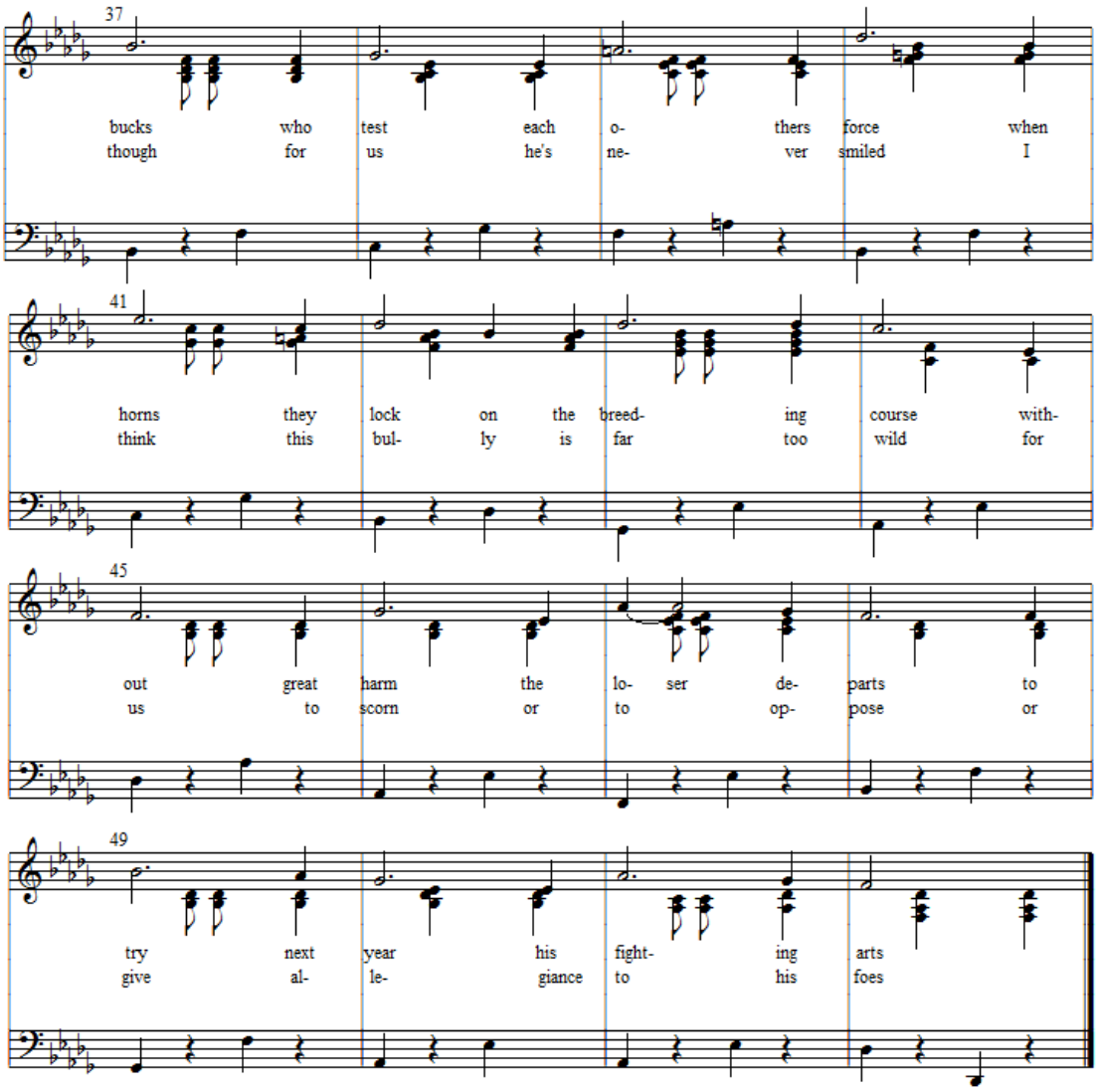

37
40
43
46
48

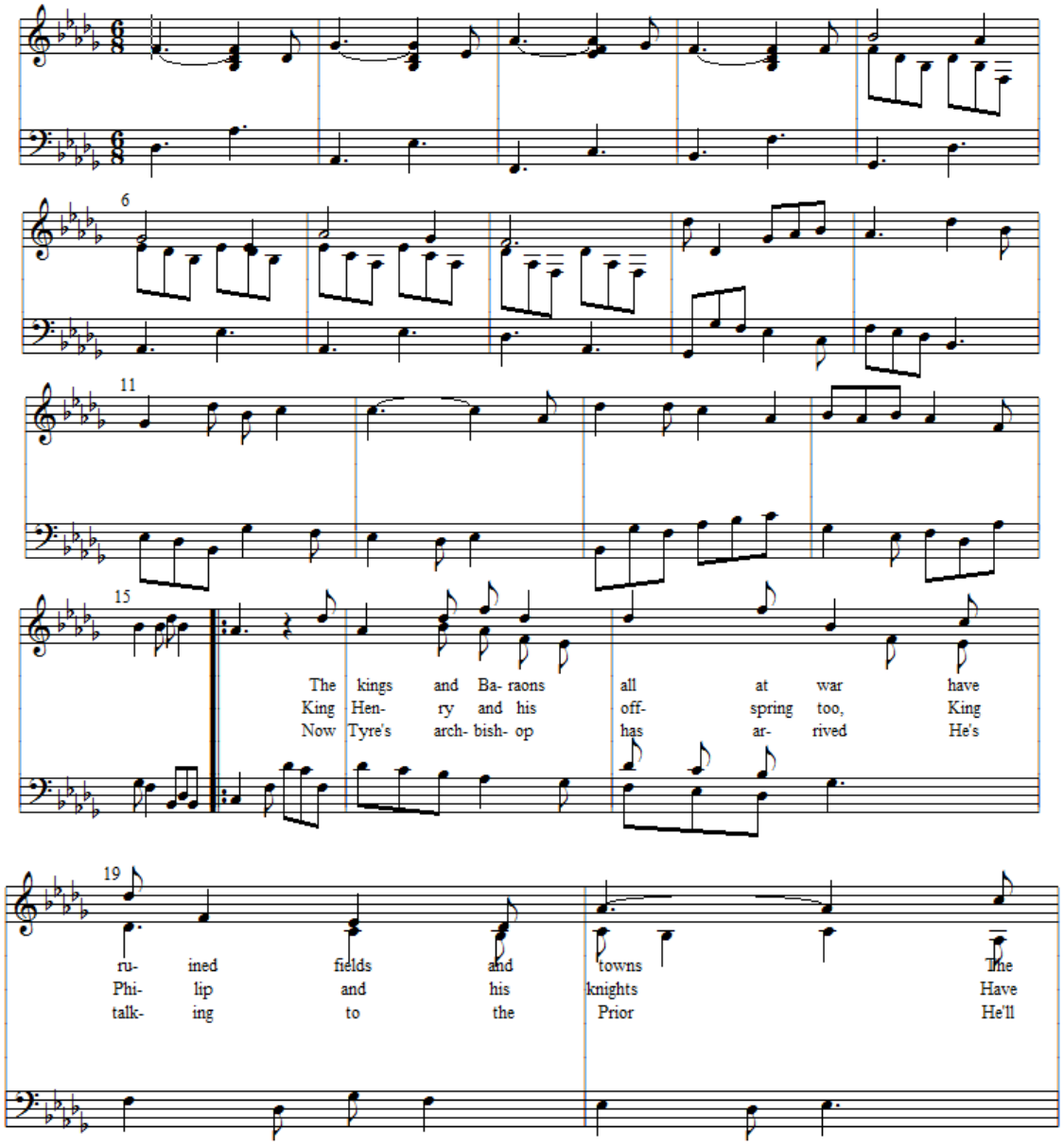
Jousts

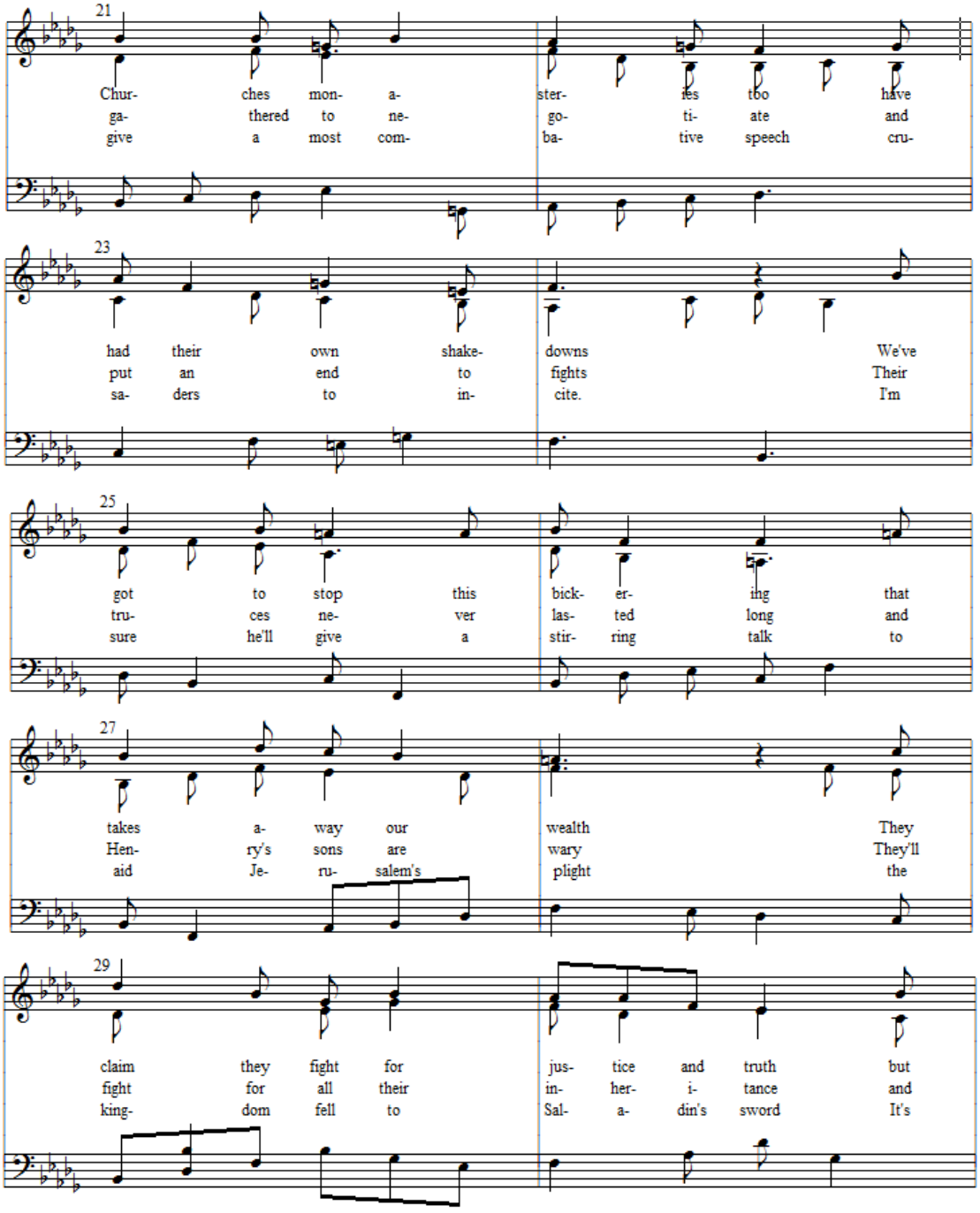

In
Prince
5
jous- ting fi- ner- y we're all be- decked we
Ri- chard shuns all our tour- na- ments and
9
mount our steed to draw re- spect from
all our splen- did or- na- ments In-
13
ri- vals we would soon de- ject and
stead he rush- es off to war He
17
maid- ens fair whom we pro- tect The
plun- ers, rapes and sa- vors gore Young

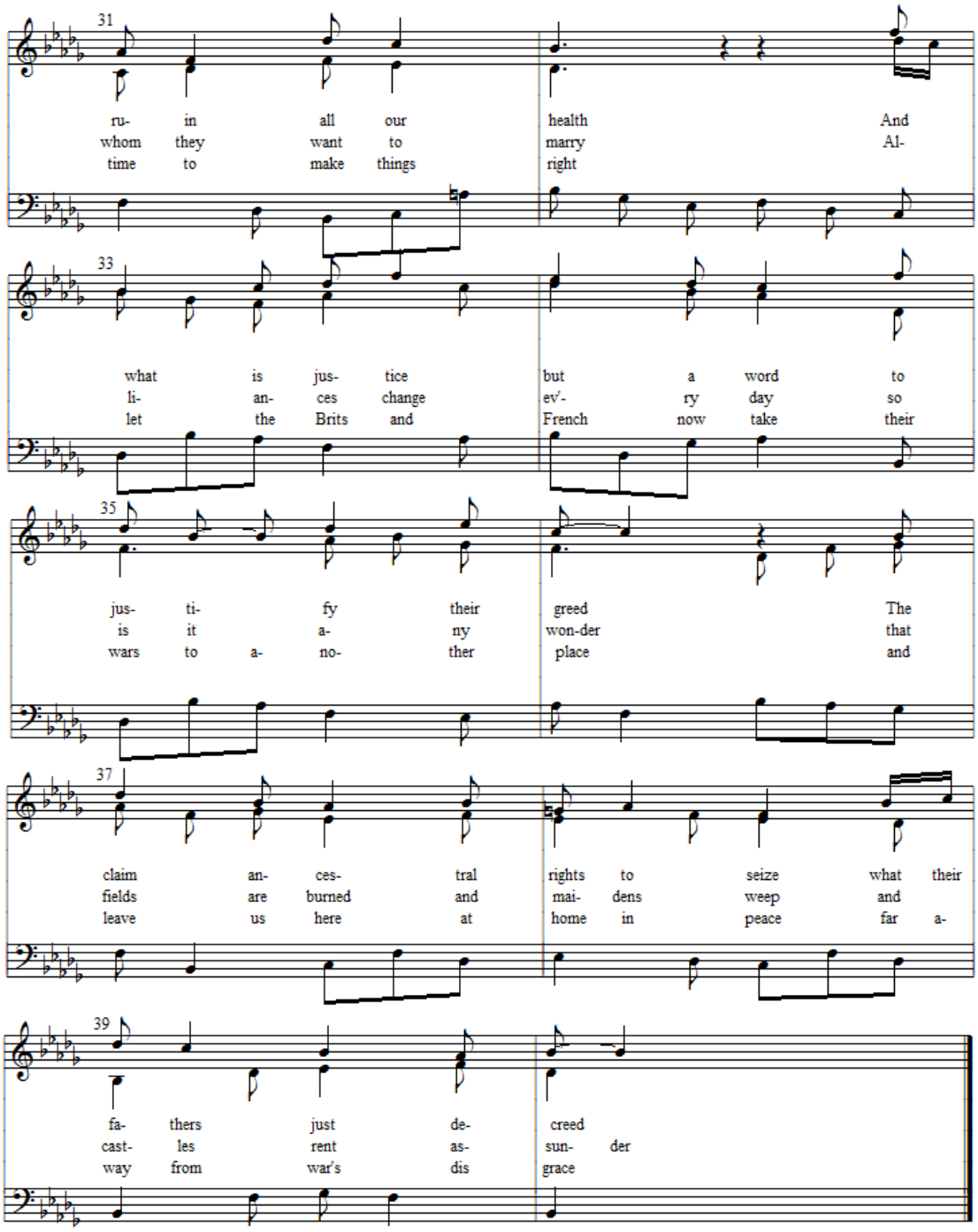

21
tour- na- ments in spring serve well to at-
maids he ne- ver tries to win with
25
tract and con- quer a da moi- selle Or
words and dan- ces mas- cu- line In-
29
to as- sess the strength of foes With-
stead of pledg- ing love so dear he
33
out a war and all its
plun- ders rapes and sa- vors
36
woes
gore


37
bucks who test each o- thers force when
though for us he's ne- ver smiled I
41
horns they lock on the breed- ing course with-
think this bul- ly is far too wild for
45
out great harm the lo- ser de- parts to
us to scorn or to op- pose or
49
try next year his fight- ing arts
give al- le- giance to his foes

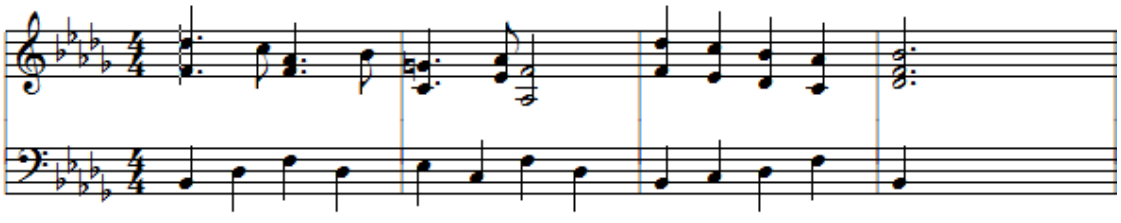
Nuns

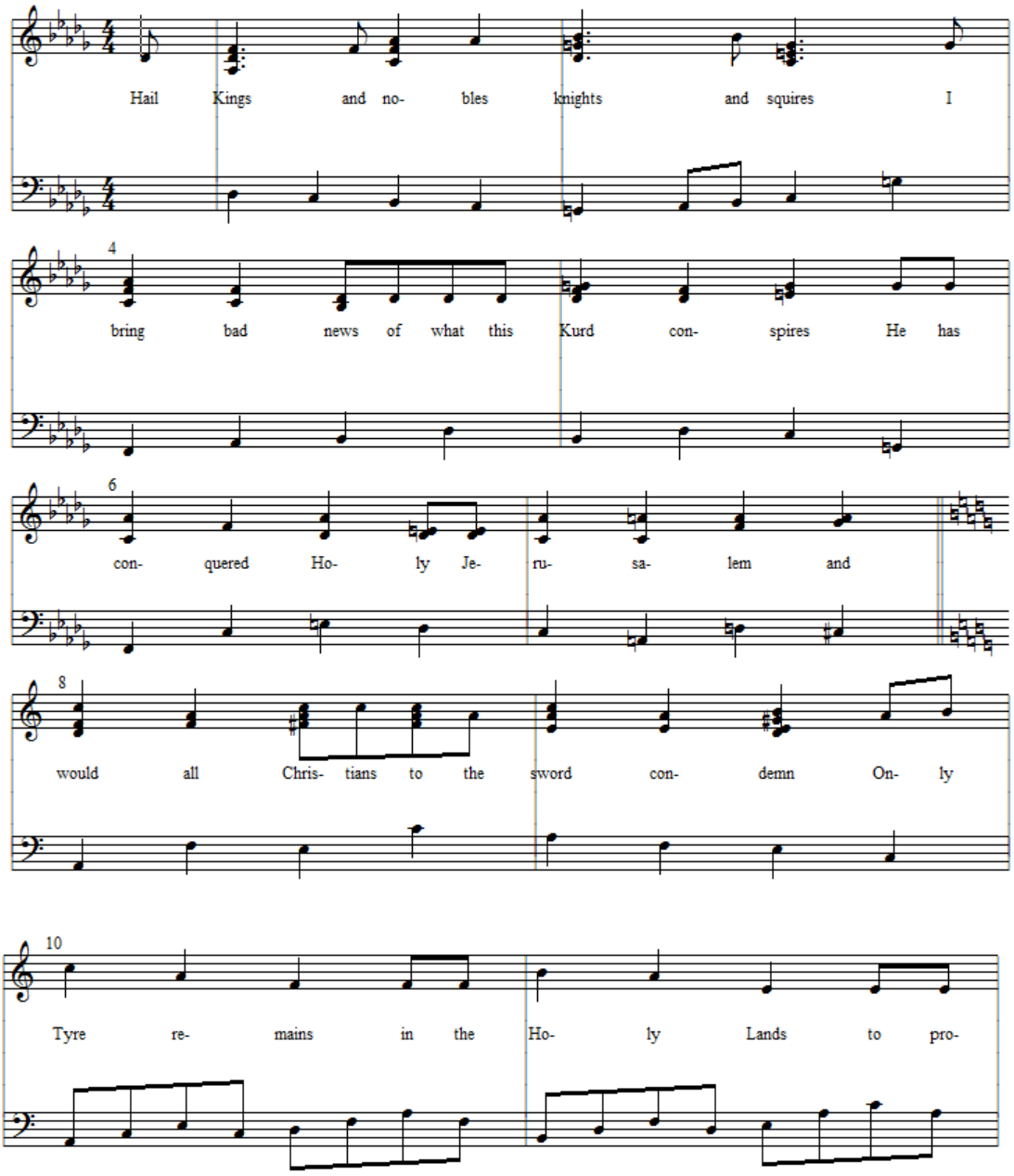

6
11
15
The kings and Ba- raons all at war have
King Hen- ry and his off- spring too, King
Now Tyre's arch- bish- op has ar- rived He's
19
ru- ined fields and towns The
Phi- lip and his knights Have
talk- ing to the Prior He'll

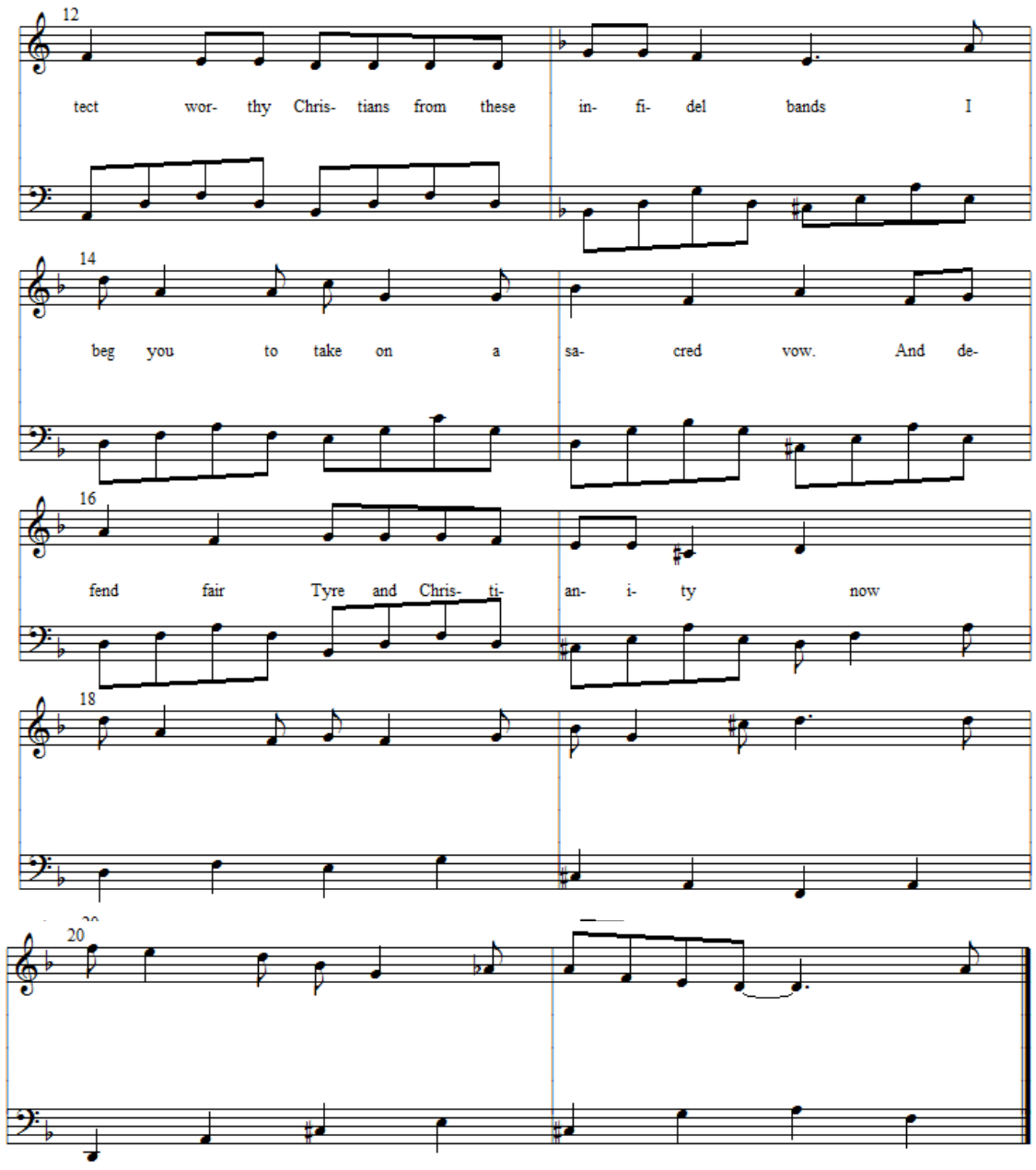

21
Chur- ches mon- a- ster- ies too have
ga- thered to ne- go- ti- ate and
give a most com- ba- tive speech cru-
23
had their own shake- downs We've
put an end to fights Their
sa- ders to in- cite. I'm
25
got to stop this bick- er- ing that
tru- ces ne- ver las- ted long and
sure he'll give a stir- ring talk to
27
takes a- way our wealth They
Hen- ry's sons are wary They'll
aid Je- ru- salem's plight the
29
claim they fight for jus- tice and truth but
fight for all their in- her- i- tance and
king- dom fell to Sal- a- din's sword It's



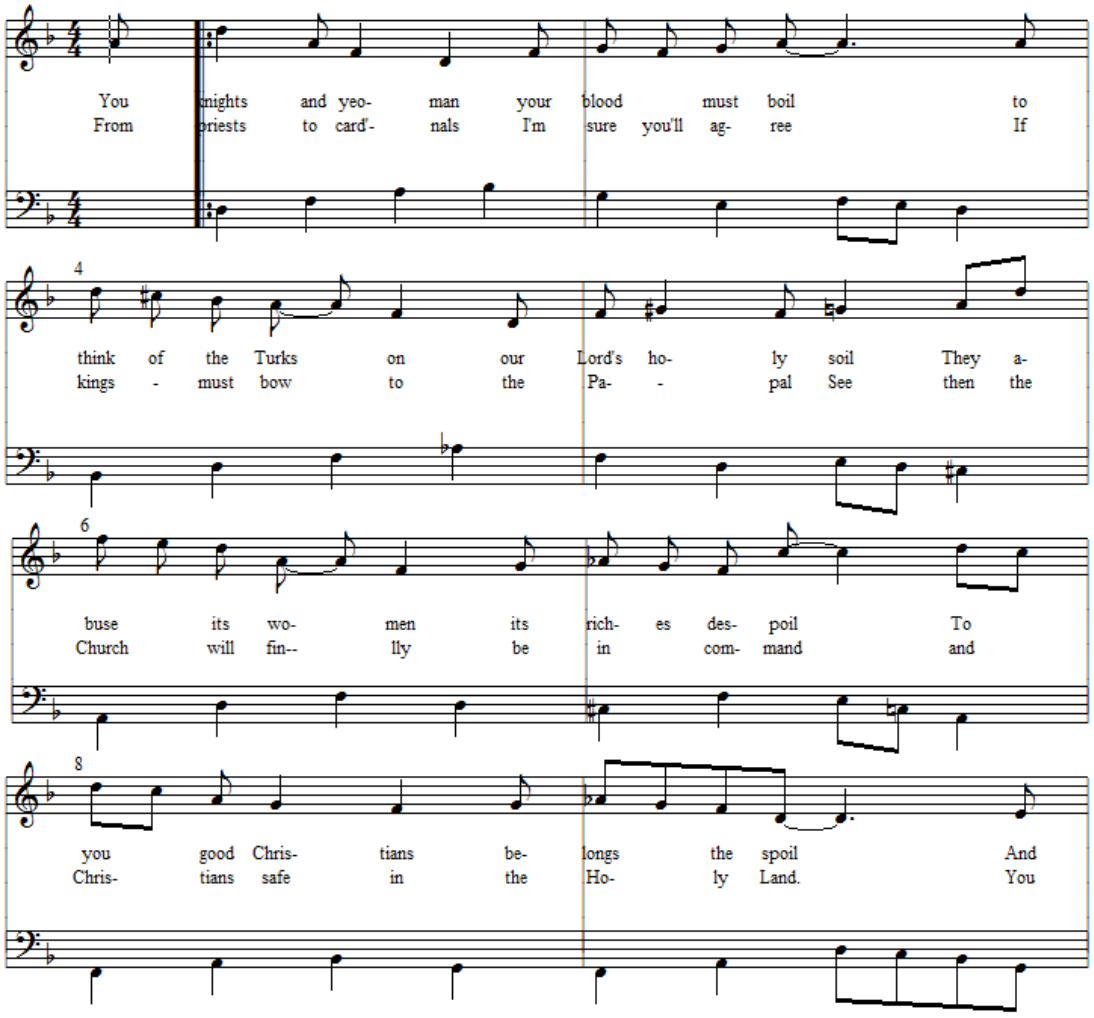
Bishop of TYRE

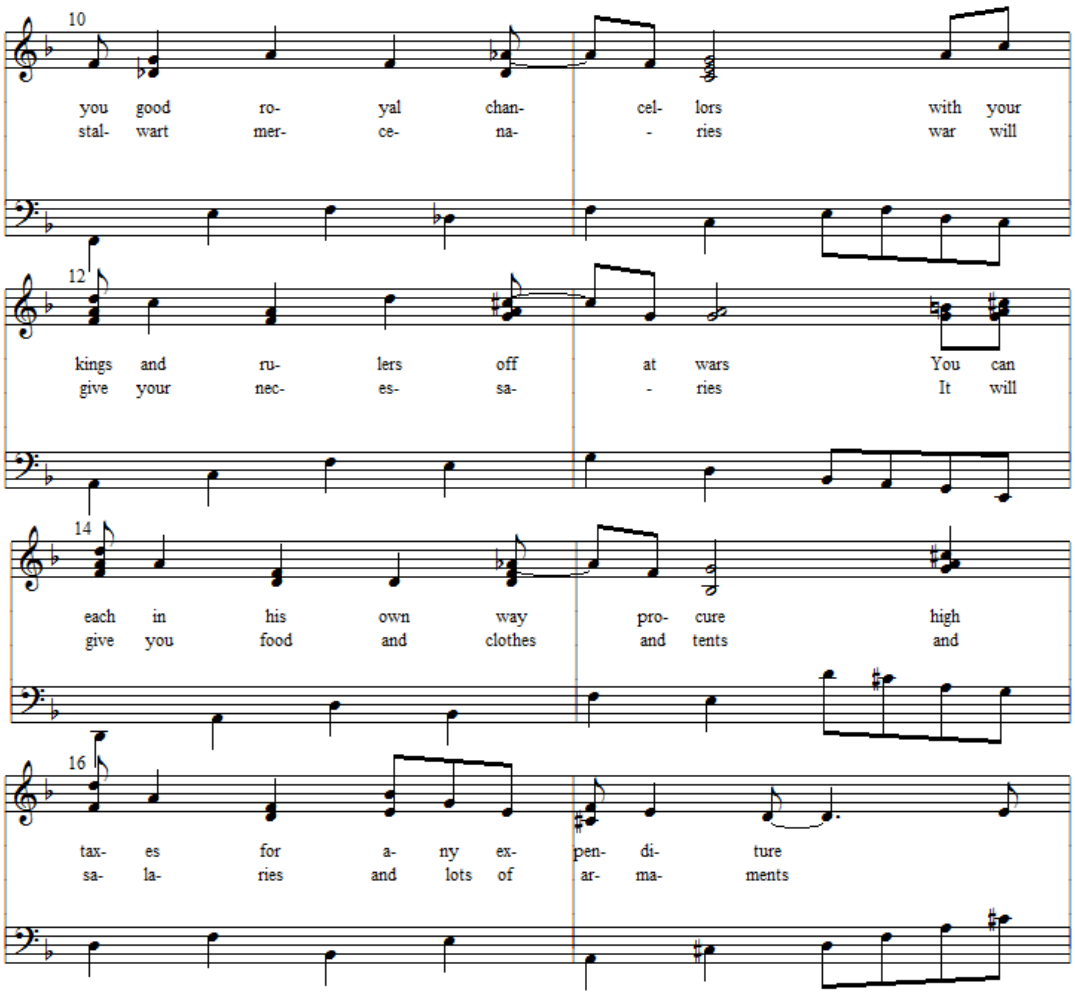


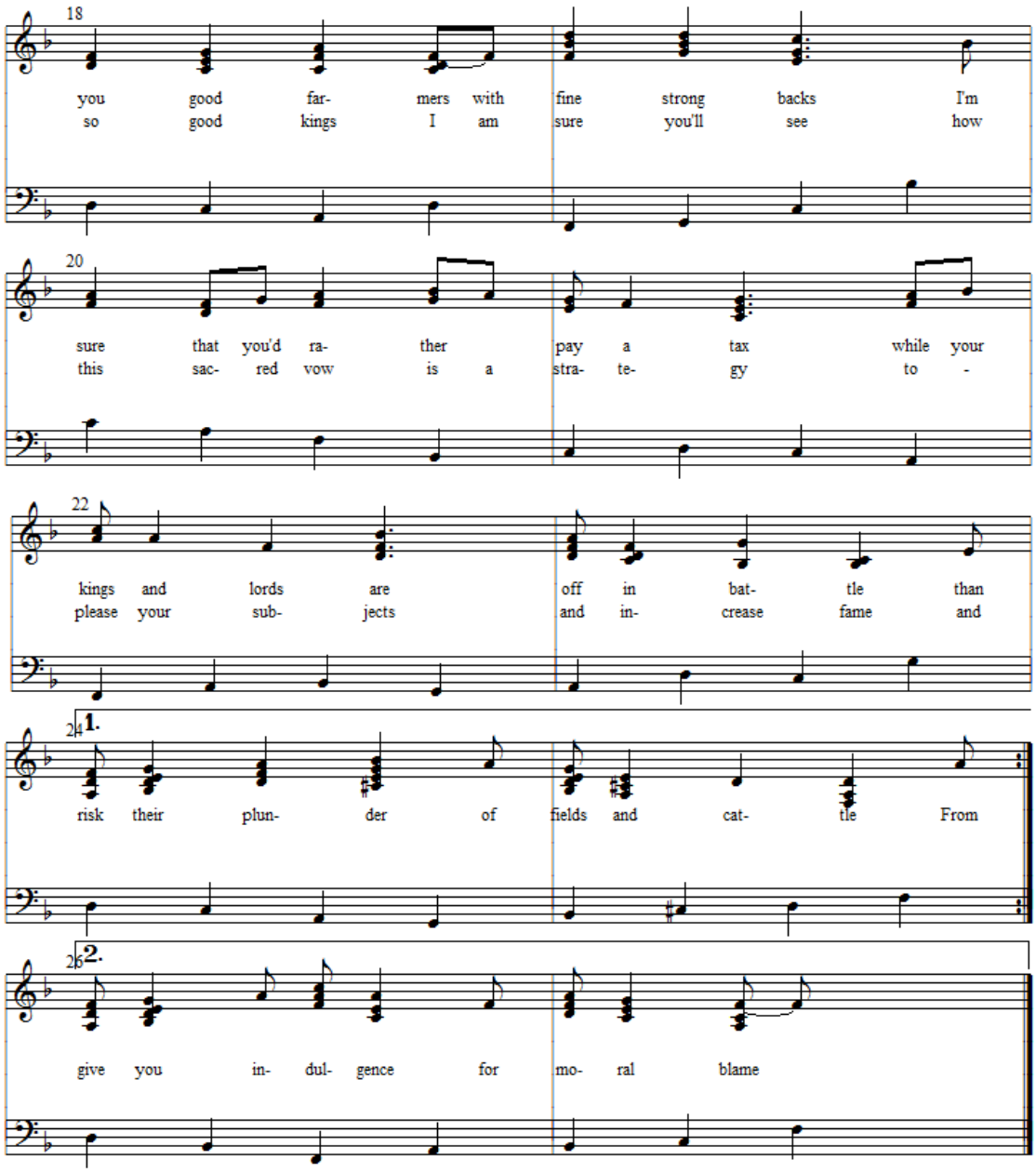

Hail Kings and no- bles knights and squires I
4
bring bad news of what this Kurd con- spires He has
6
con- quered Ho- ly Je- ru- sa- lem and
8
would all Chris- tians to the sword con- demn On- ly
10
Tyre re- mains in the Ho- ly Lands to pro-


12
tect wor- thy Chris- tians from these in- fi- del bands I
14
beg you to take on a sa- cred vow. And de-
16
fend fair Tyre and Chris- ti- an- i- ty now
18
20

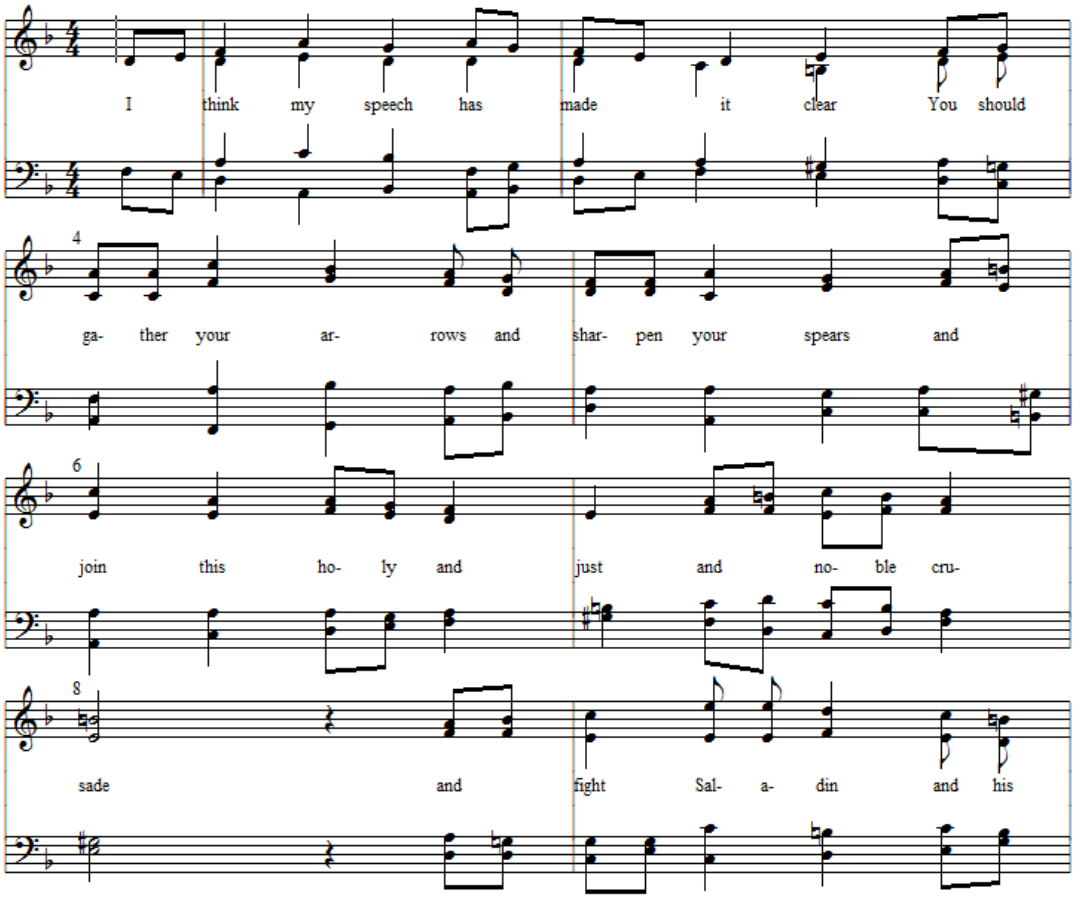
You knights and yeomen

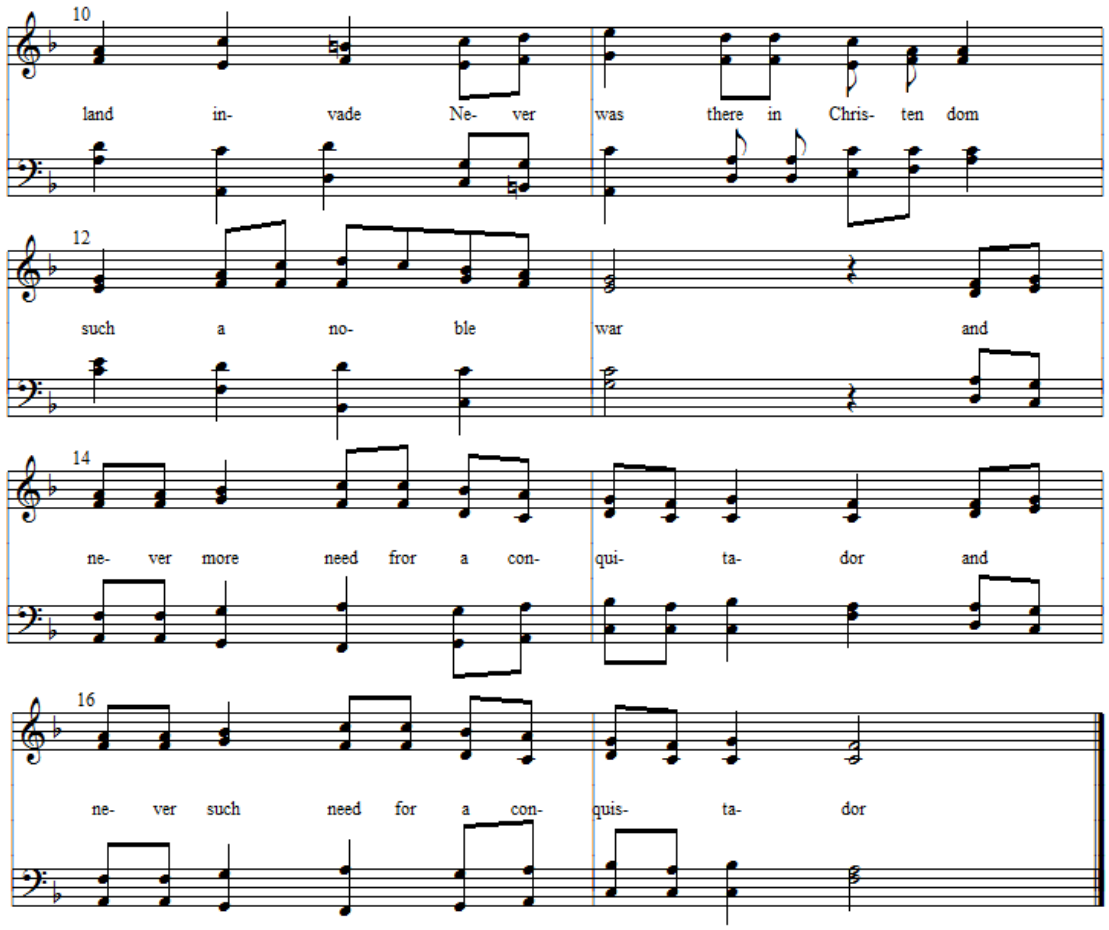



10
you good ro- yal chan- cel- lors with your
stal- wart mer- ce- na- - ries war will
12
kings and ru- lers off at wars You can
give your nec- es- sa- - ries It will
14
each in his own way pro- cure high
give you food and clothes and tents and
16
tax- es for a- ny ex- pen- di- ture
sa- la- ries and lots of ar- ma- ments

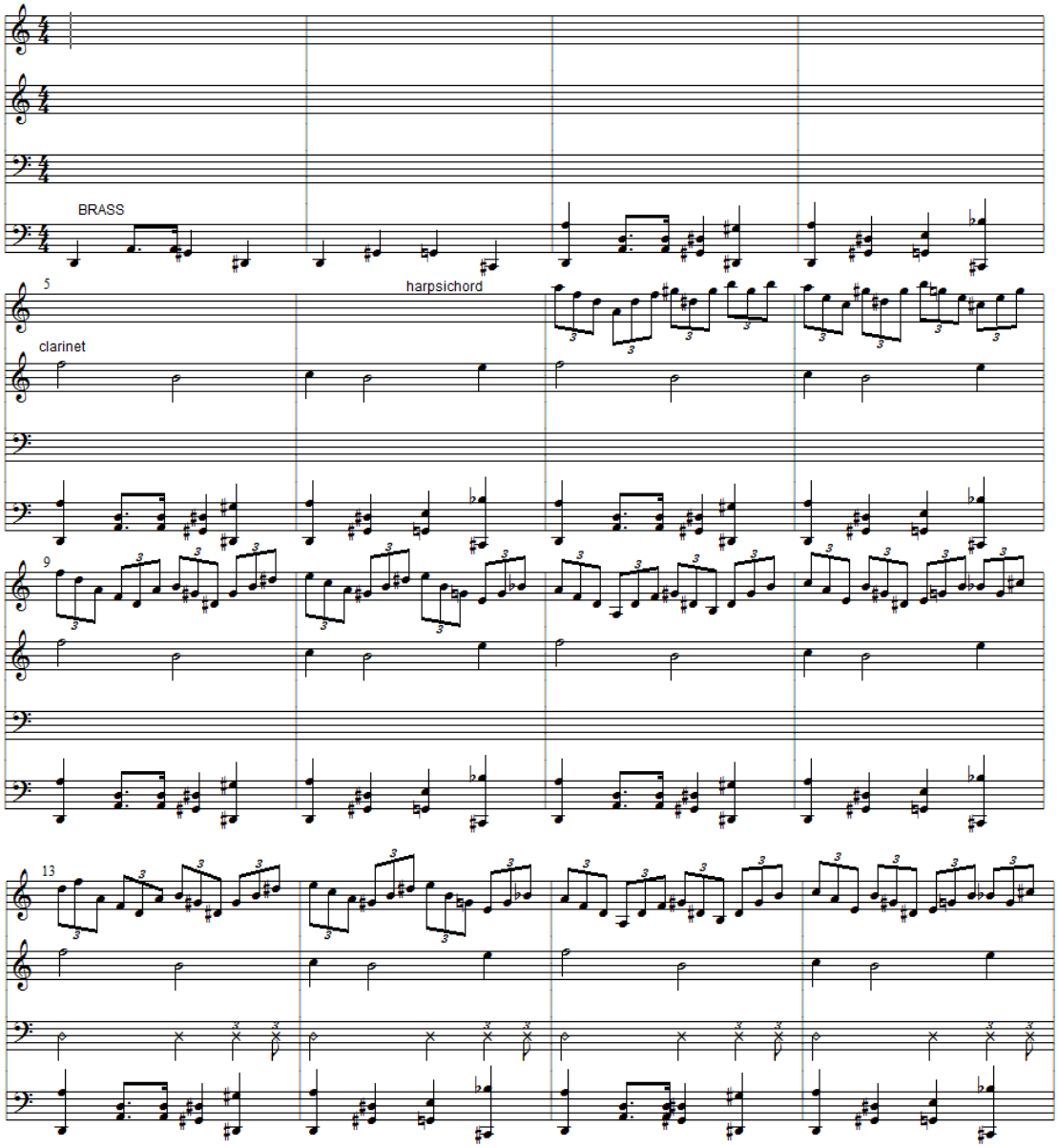

18
you good far- mers with fine strong backs I'm
so good kings I am sure you'll see how
20
sure that you'd ra- ther pay a tax while your
this sac- red vow is a stra- te- gy to -
22
kings and lords are off in bat- tle than
please your sub- jects and in- crease fame and
1.
risk their plun- der of fields and cat- tle From
2.
give you in- dul- gence for mo- ral blame

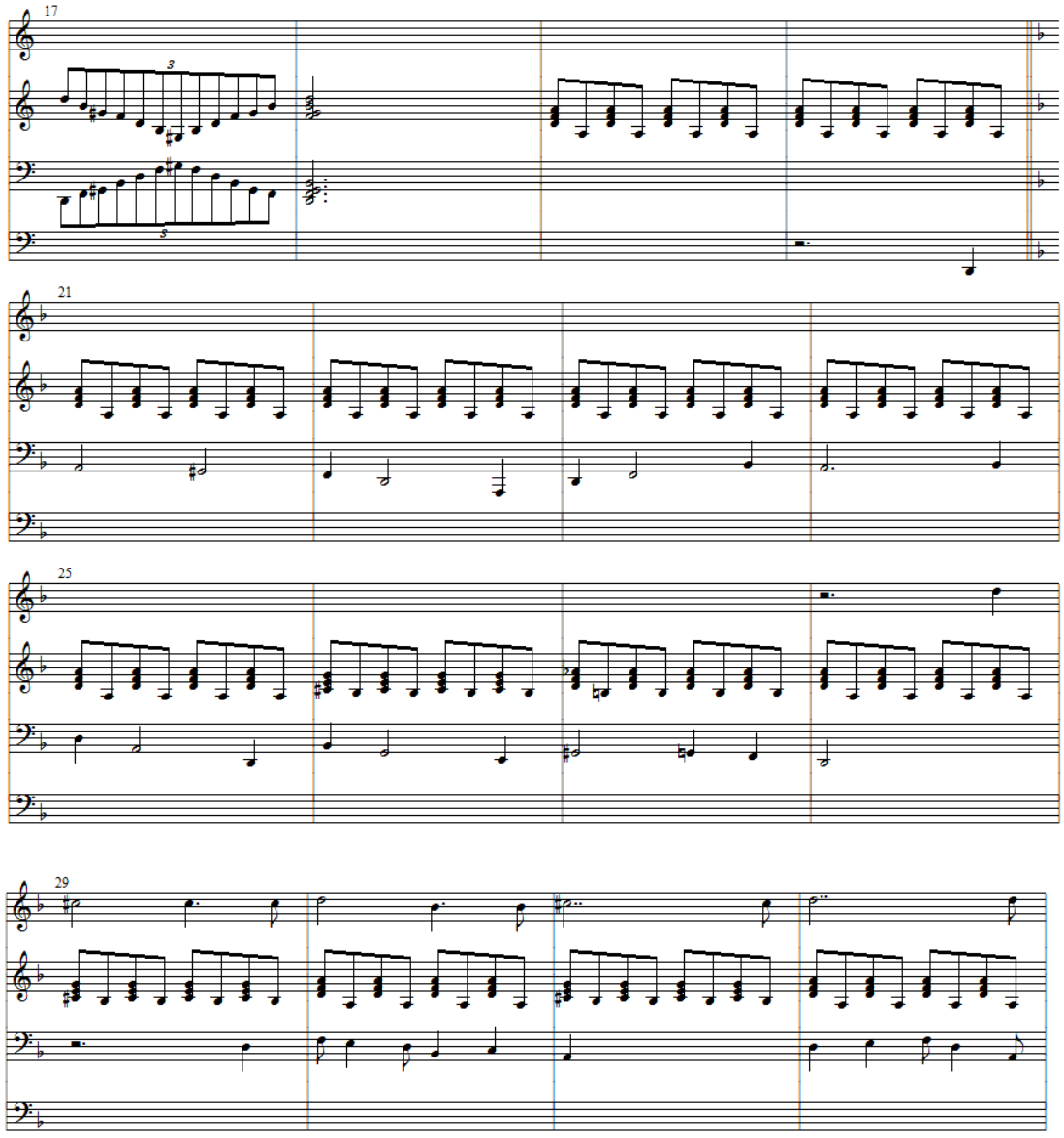
I think my speech




10
land in- vade Ne- ver was there in Chris- ten dom
12
such a no- ble war and
14
ne- ver more need fror a con- qui- ta- dor and
16
ne- ver such need for a con- quis- ta- dor

Act III

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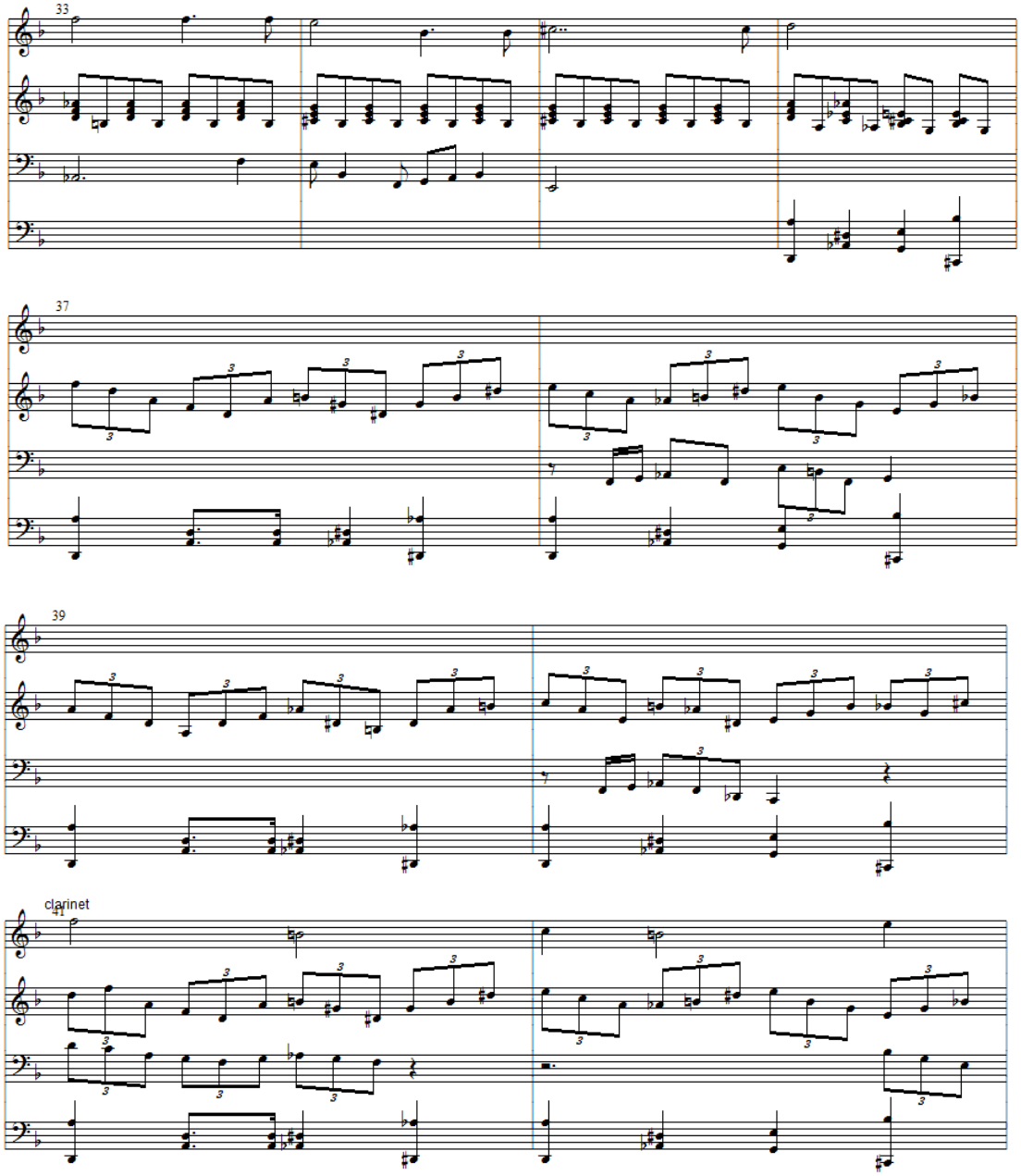
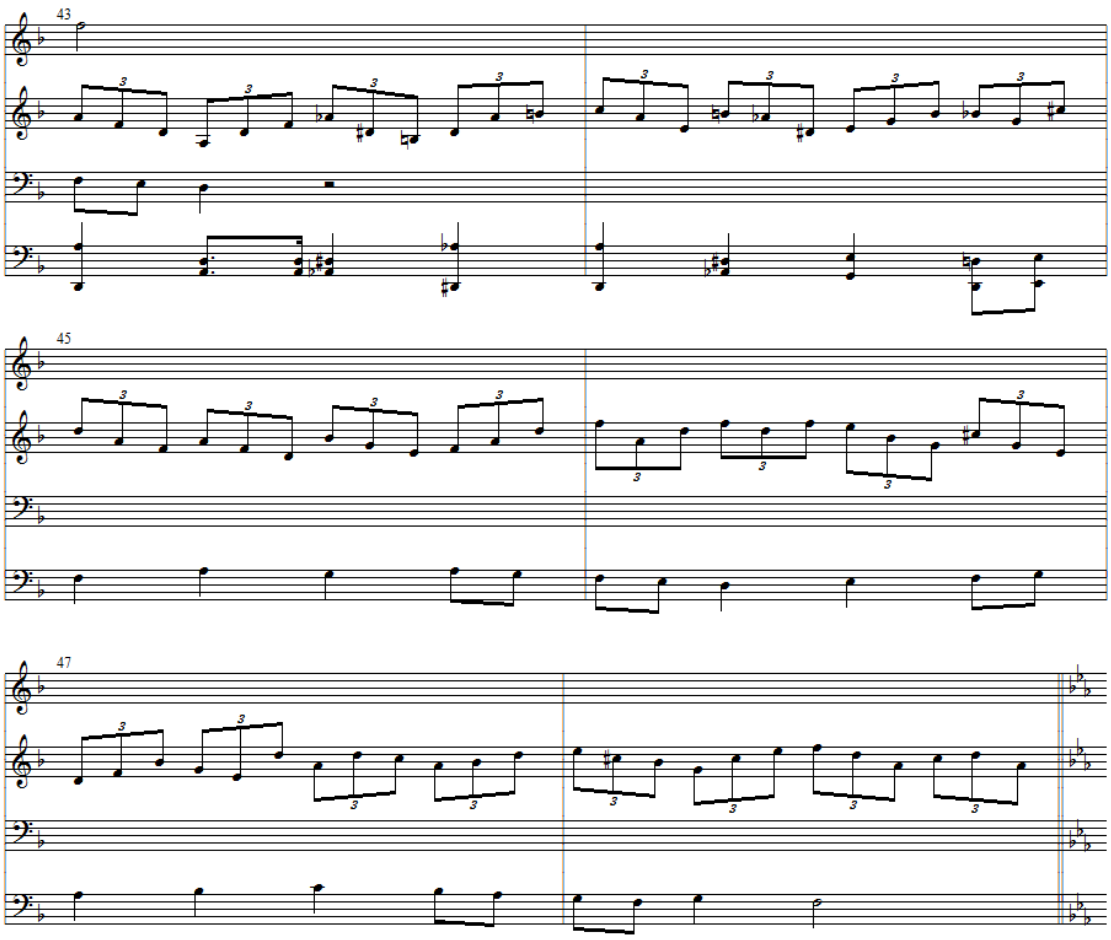

33
37
39
clarinet
41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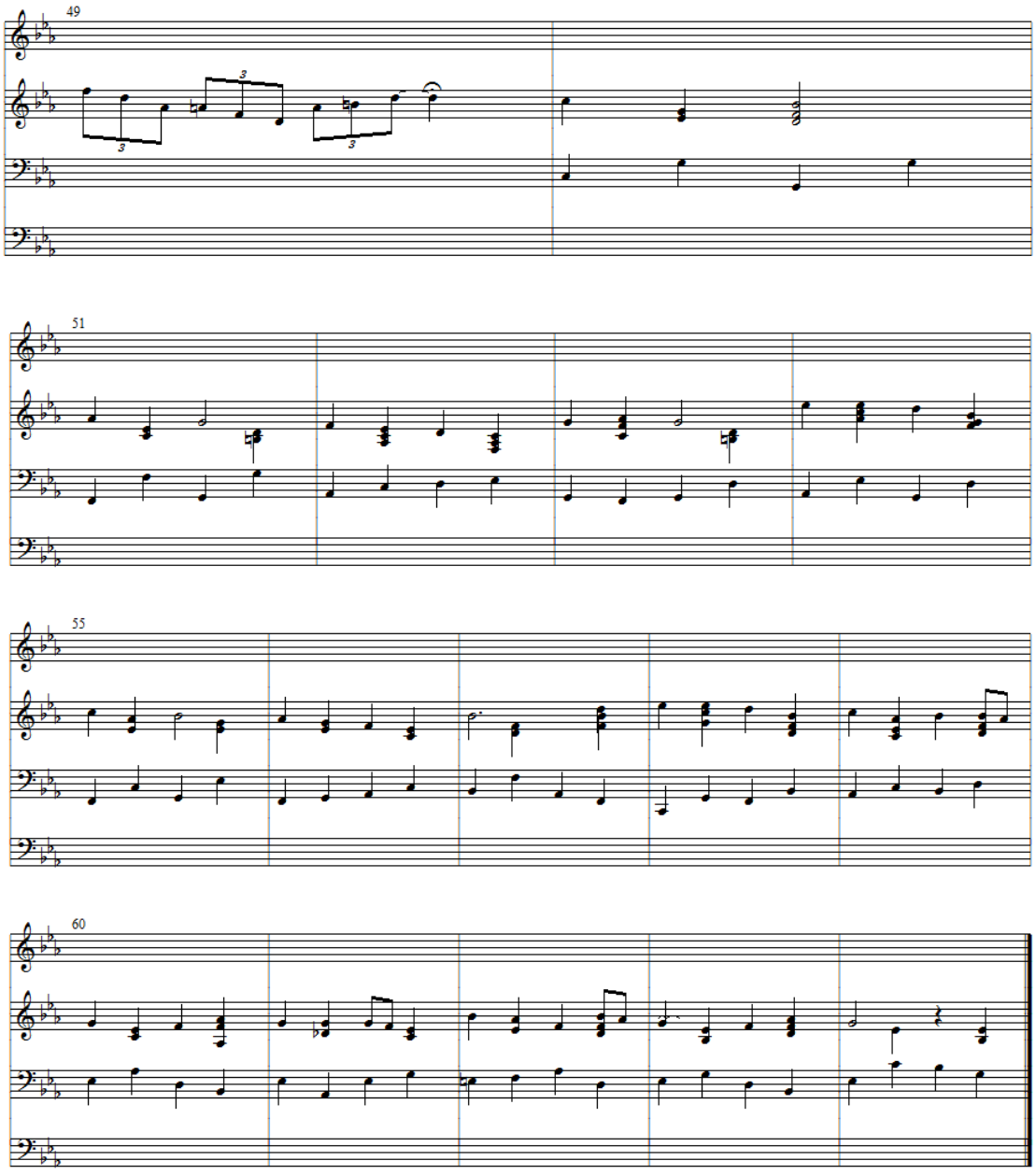
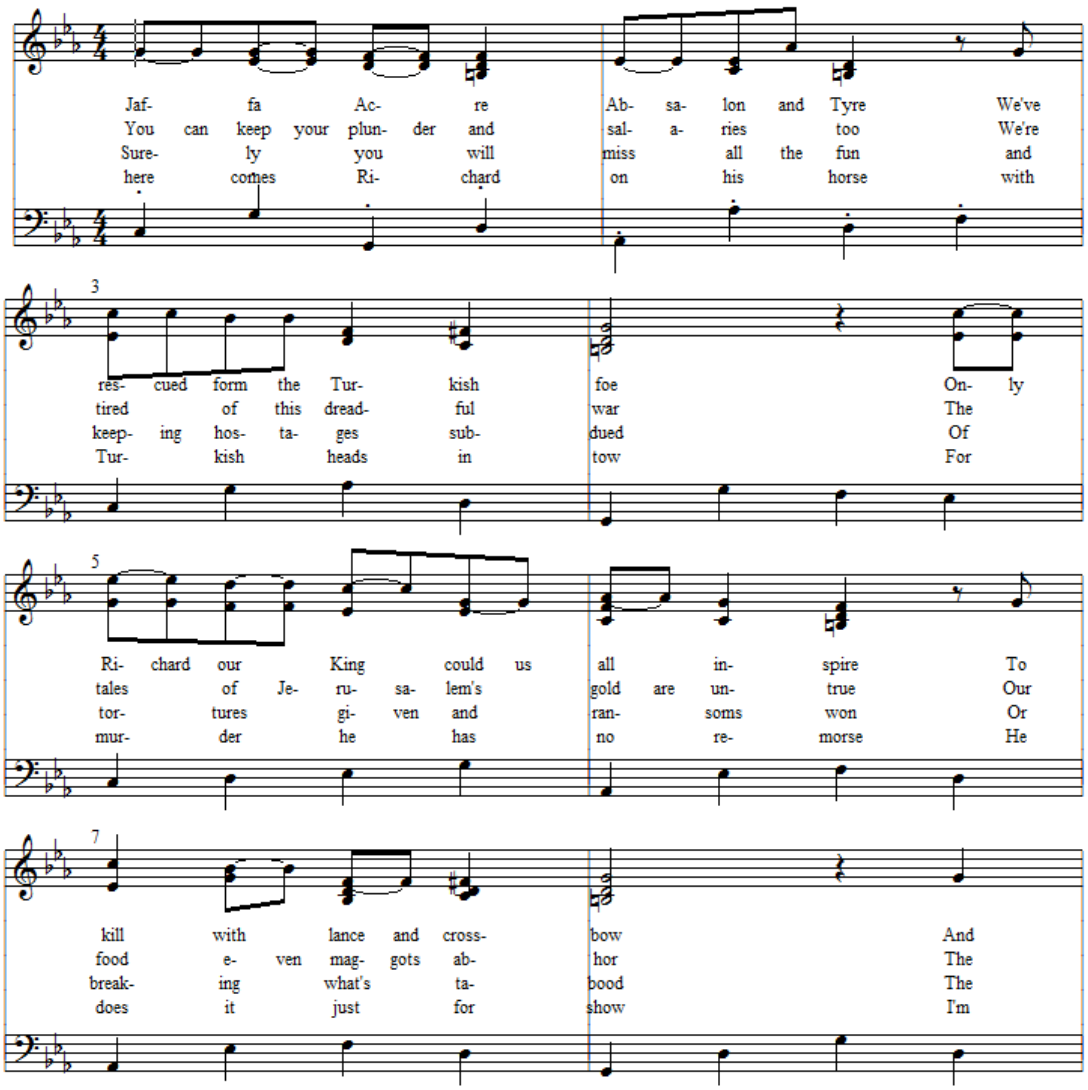
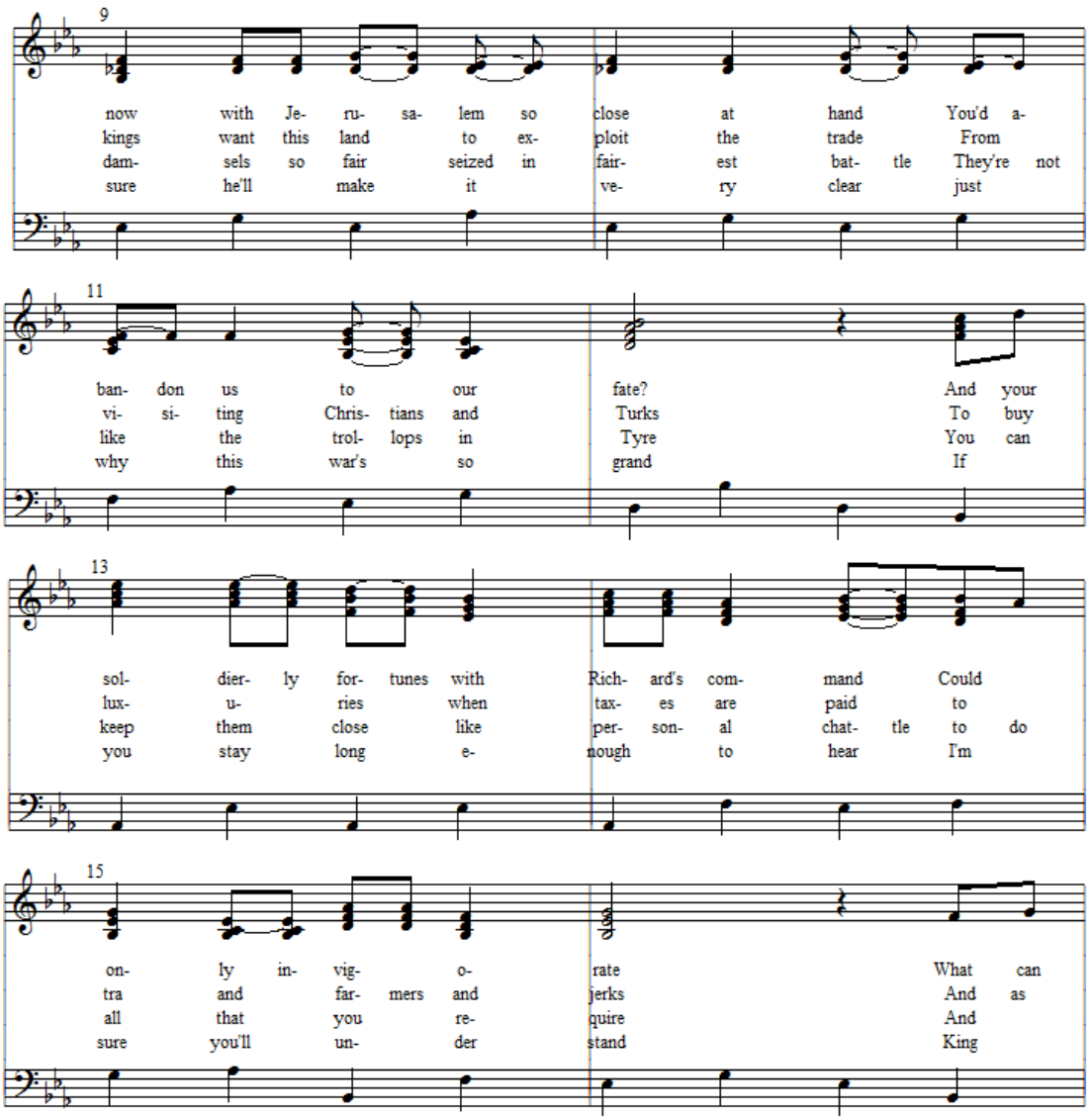
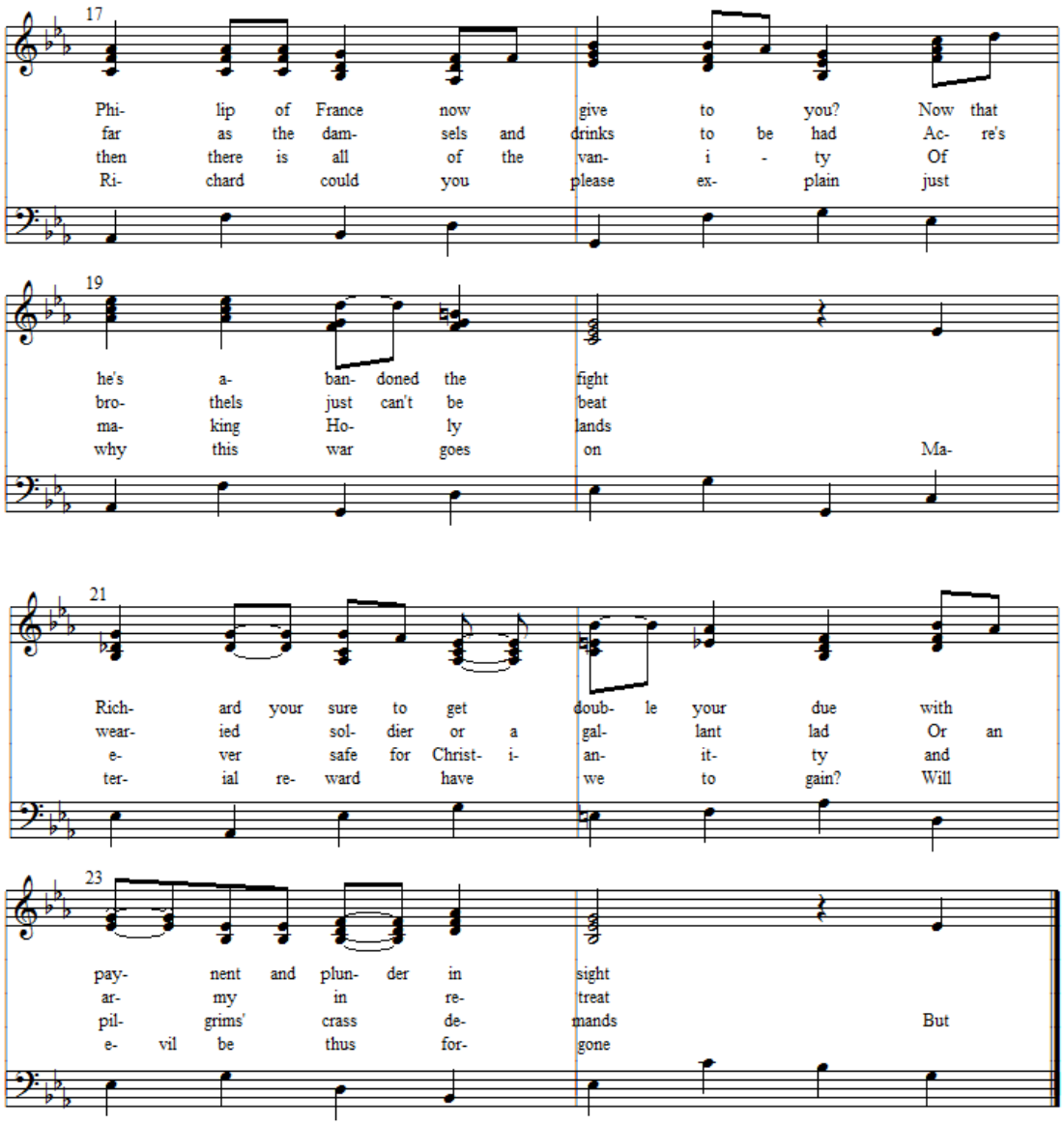
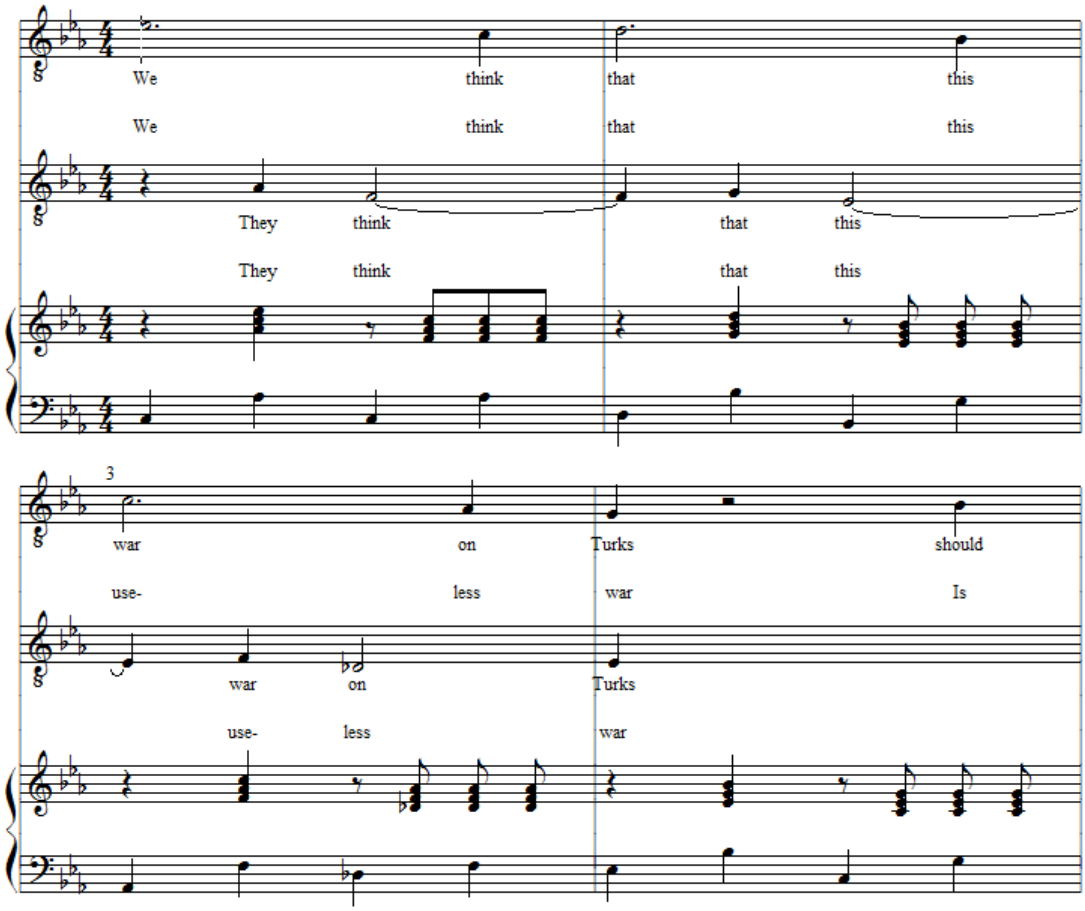

49
51
55
60

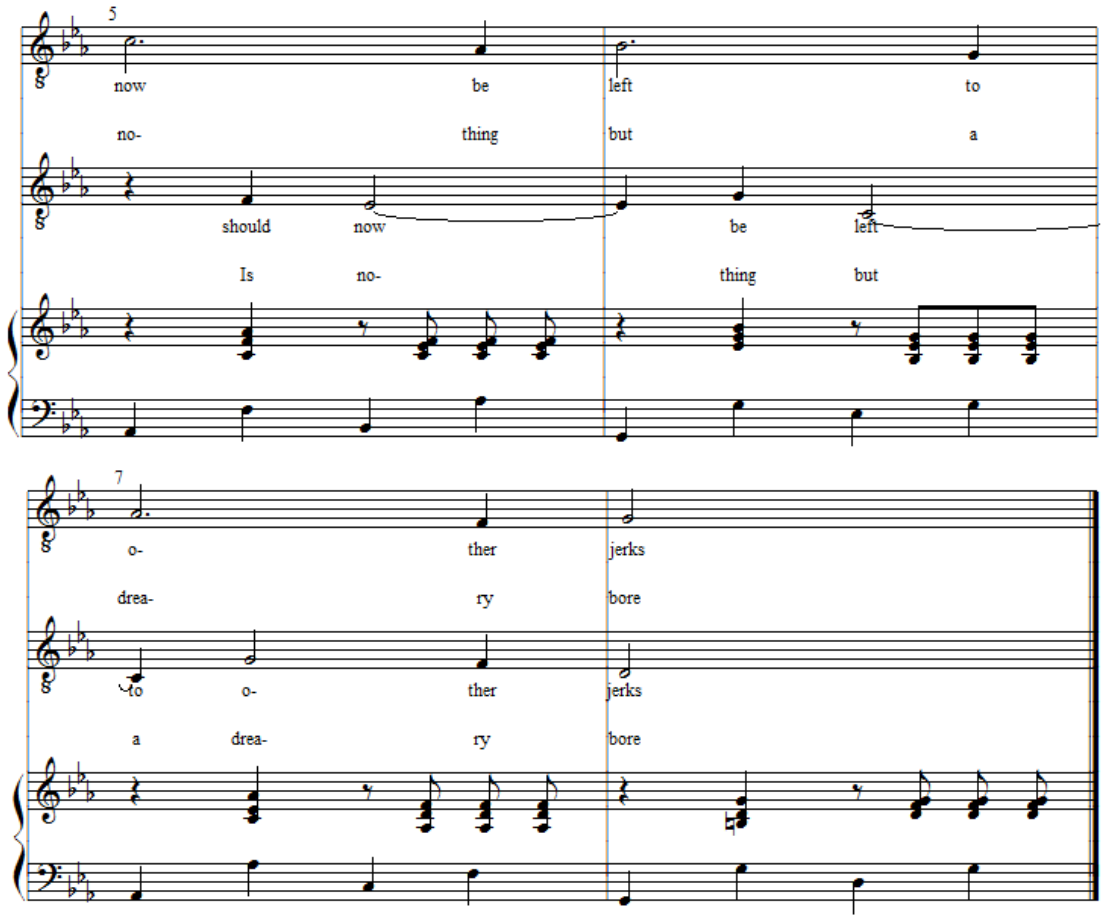
Jaffa Acre Absalom and Tyre



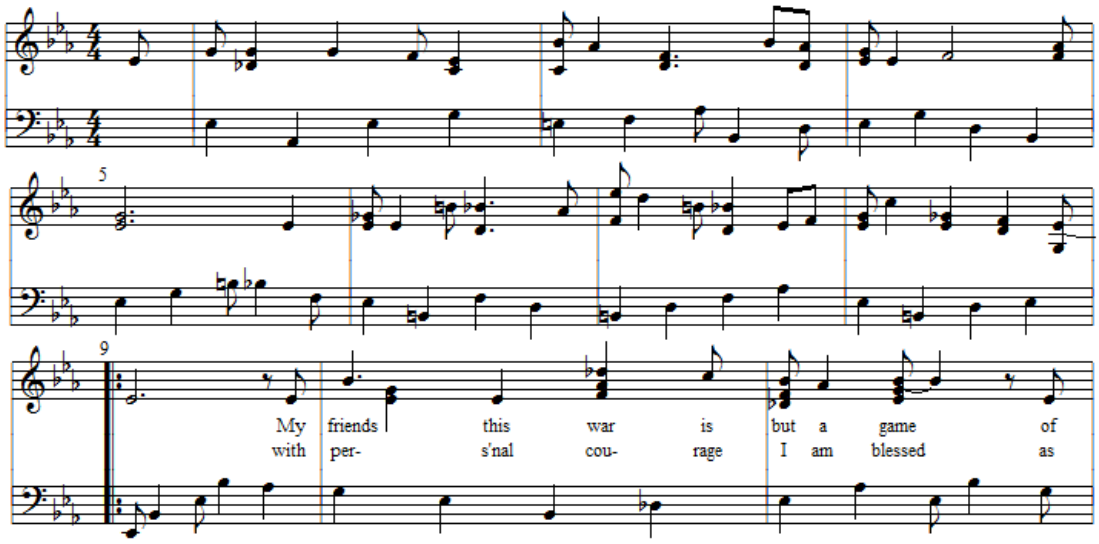

9
now with Je- ru- sa- lem so close at hand You'd a-
kings want this land to ex- ploit the trade From
dam- sels so fair seized in fair- est bat- tle They're not
sure he'll make it ve- ry clear just
11
ban- don us to our fate? And your
vi- si- ting Chris- tians and Turks To buy
like the trol- lops in Tyre You can
why this war's so grand If
13
sol- dier- ly for- tunes with Rich- ard's com- mand Could
lux- u- ries when tax- es are paid to
keep them close like per- son- al chat- tle to do
you stay long e- nough to hear I'm
15
on- ly in- vig- o- rate What can
tra and far- mers and jerks And as
all that you re- quire And
sure you'll un- der stand King

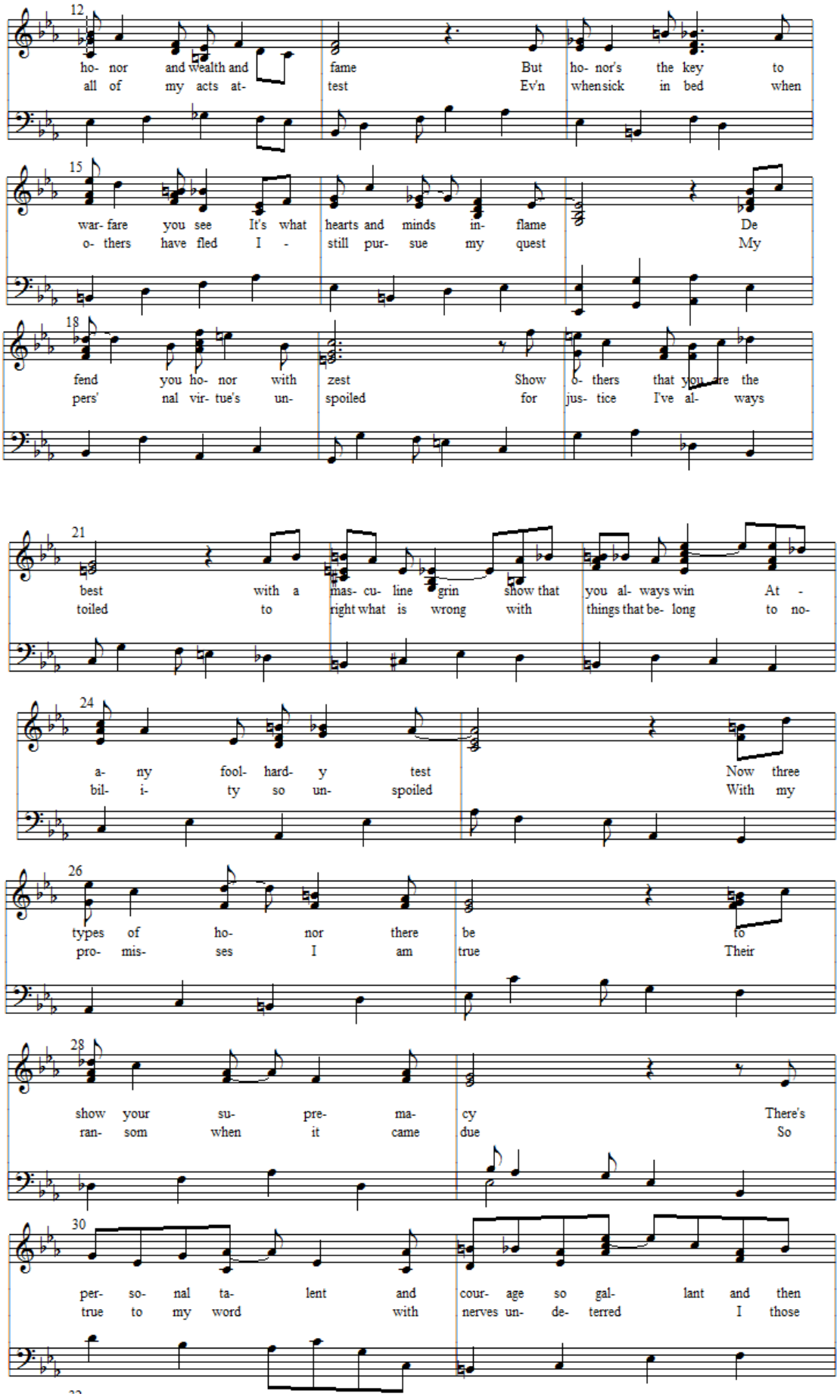

17
Phi- lip of France now give to you? Now that
far as the dam- sels and drinks to be had Ac- re's
then there is all of the van- i - ty Of
Ri- chard could you please ex- plain just
19
he's a- ban- doned the fight
bro- thels just can't be beat
ma- king Ho- ly lands
why this war goes on Ma-
21
Rich- ard your sure to get doub- le your due with
wear- ied sol- dier or a gal- lant lad Or an
e- ver safe for Christ- i- an- it- ty and
ter- ial re- ward have we to gain? Will
23
pay- nent and plun- der in sight
ar- my in re- treat
pil- grims' crass de- mands But
e- vil be thus for- gone

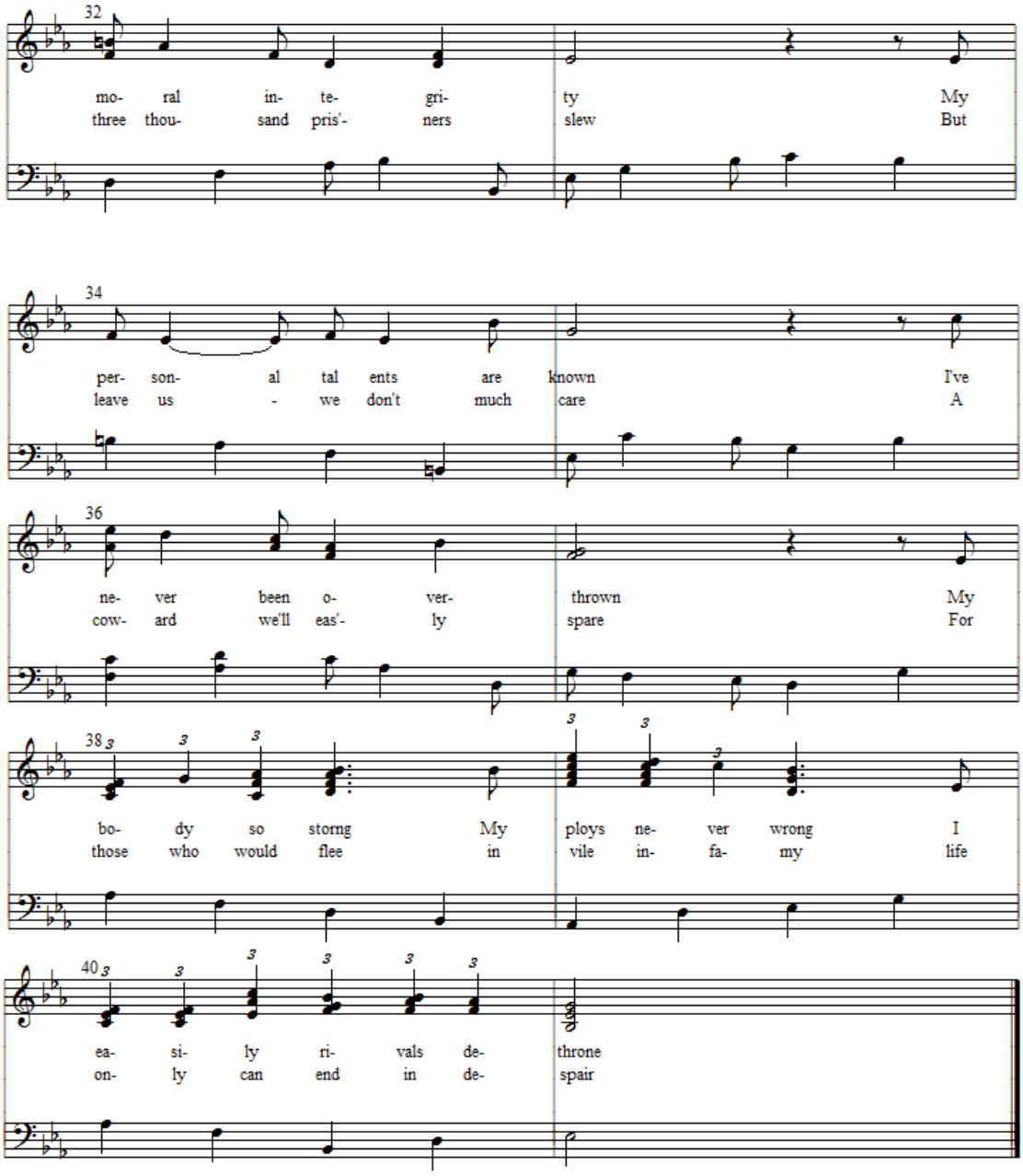

We think that this
We think that this
They think that this
They think that this
3
war on Turks should
use- less war Is
war on Turks
use- less war



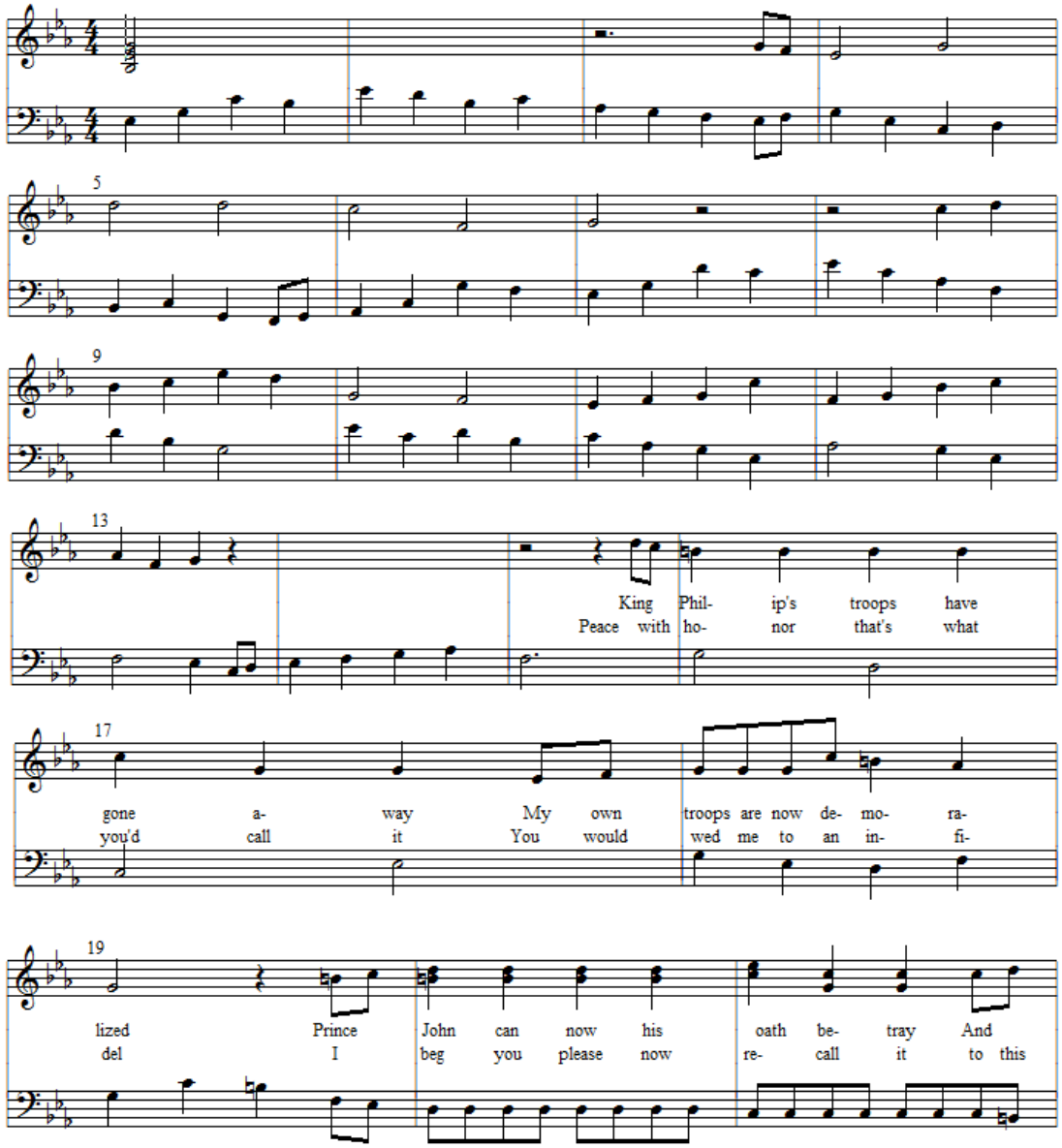
My Friends this war is but a game

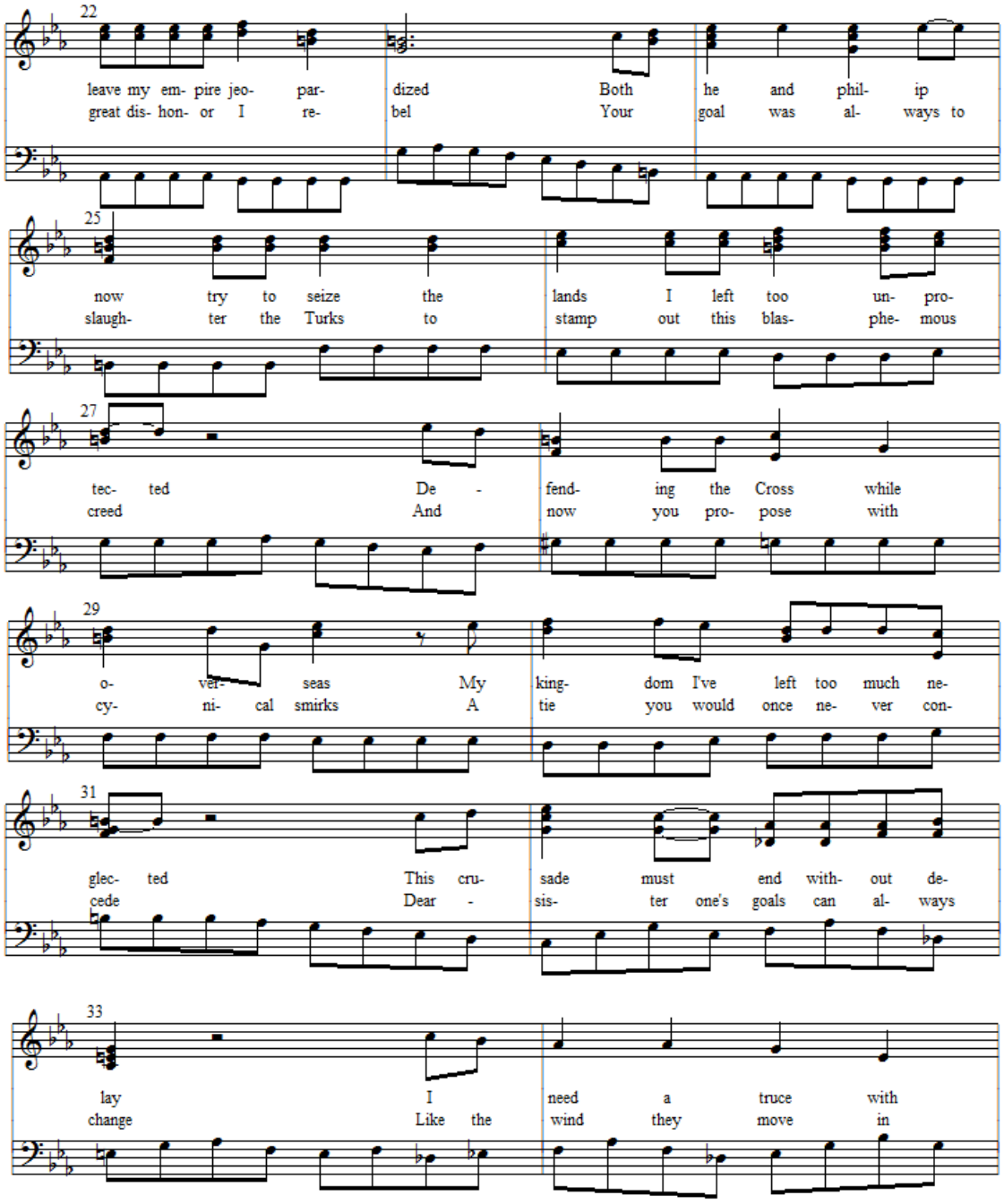


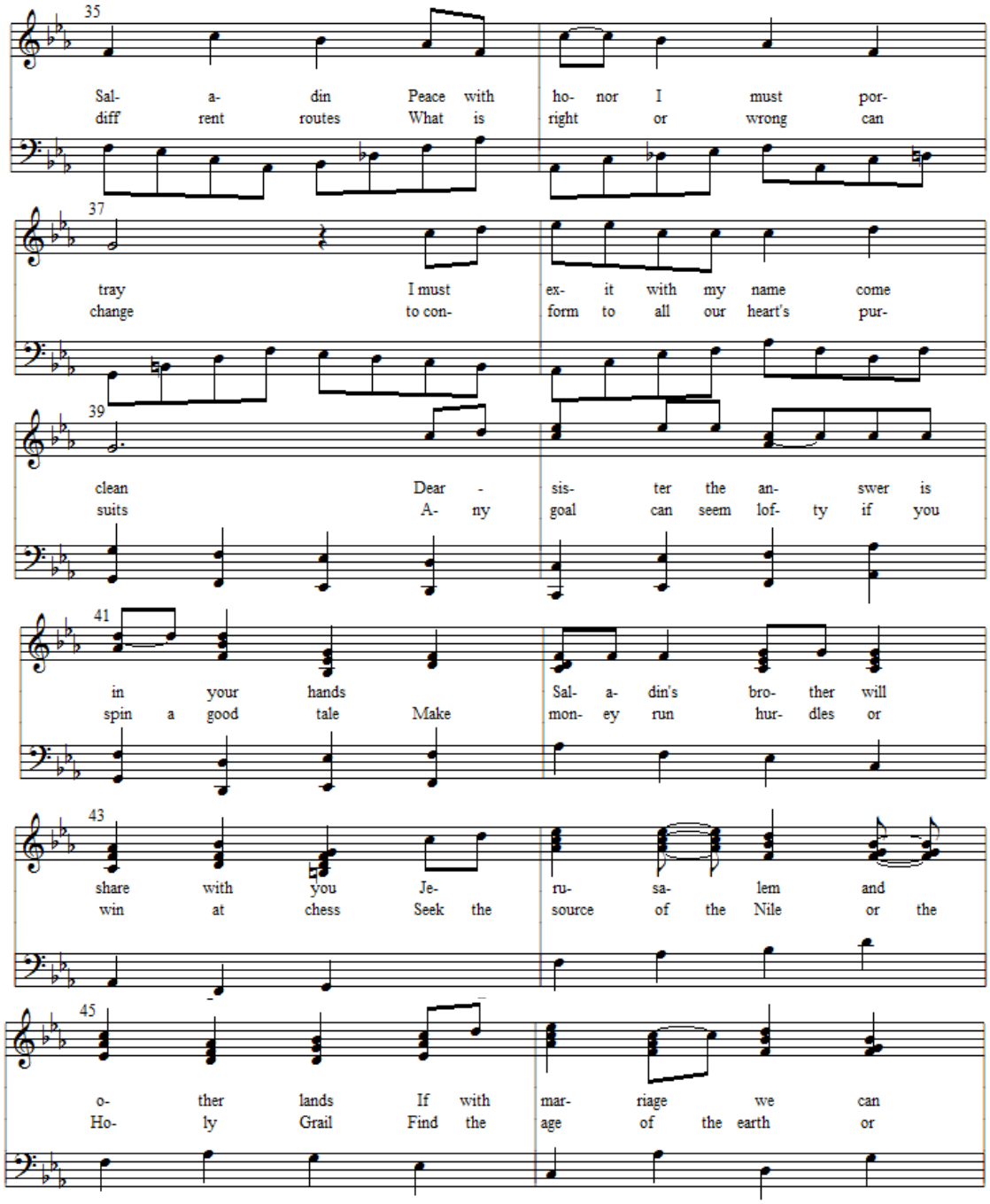

12
ho- nor and wealth and fame But ho- nor's the key to
all of my acts at- test Ev'n when sick in bed when
15
war- fare you see It's what hearts and minds in- flame De
o- thers have fled I - still pur- sue my quest My
18
fend you ho- nor with zest Show o- thers that you are the
pers' nal vir- tue's un- spoiled for jus- tice I've al- ways
21
best with a mas- cu- line grin show that you al- ways win At -
toiled to right what is wrong with things that be- long to no-
24
a- ny fool- hard- y test Now three
bil- i- ty so un- spoiled With my
26
types of ho- nor there be to
pro- mis- ses I am true Their
28
show your su- pre- ma- cy There's
ran- som when it came due So
30
per- so- nal ta- lent and cour- age so gal- lant and then
true to my word with nerves un- de- terred I those

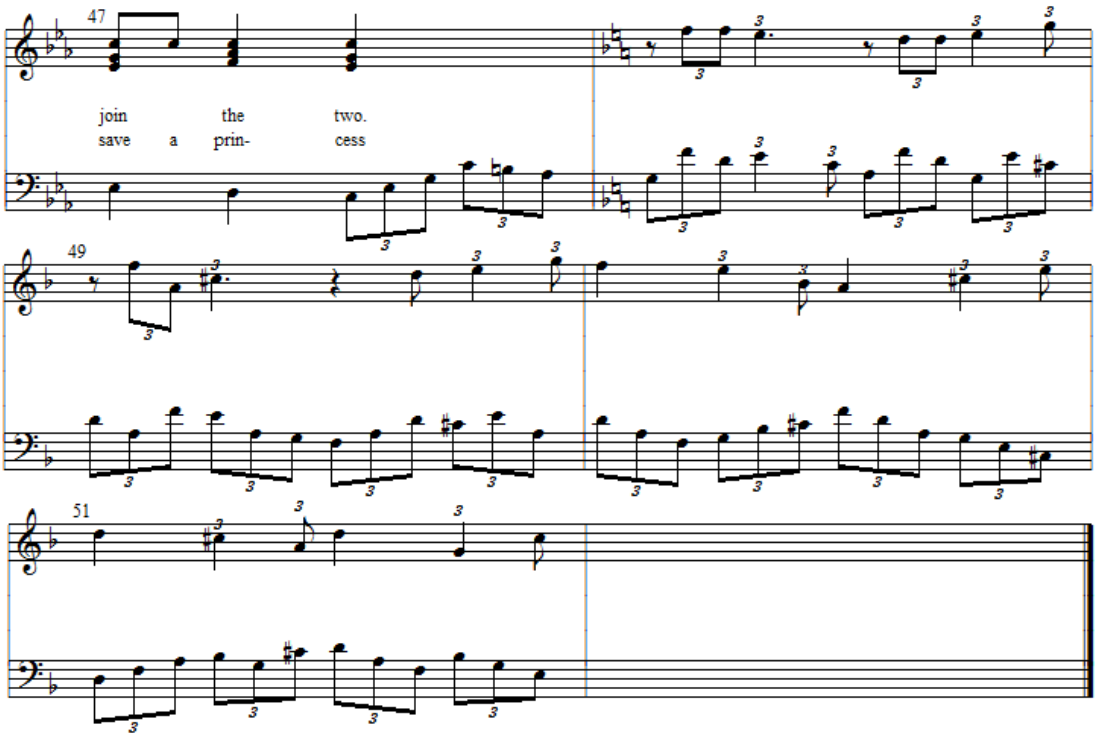

32
mo- ral in- te- gri- ty My
three thou- sand pris'- ners slew But
34
per- son- al tal ents are known I've
leave us - we don't much care A
36
ne- ver been o- ver- thrown My
cow- ard we'll eas'- ly spare For
38
bo- dy so storng My ploys ne- ver wrong I
those who would flee in vile in- fa- my life
40
ea- si- ly ri- vals de- throne
on- ly can end in de- spair

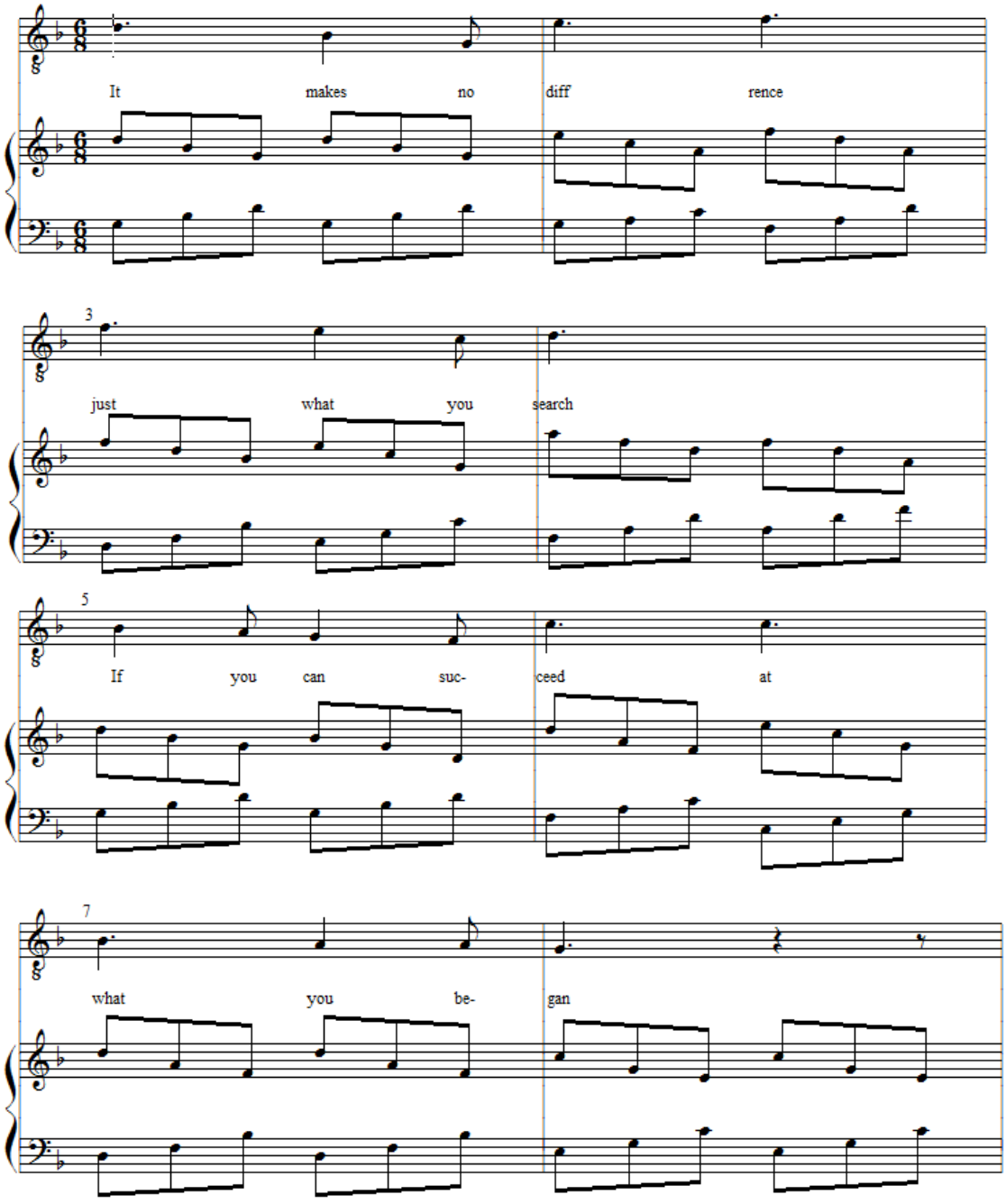
Joanna

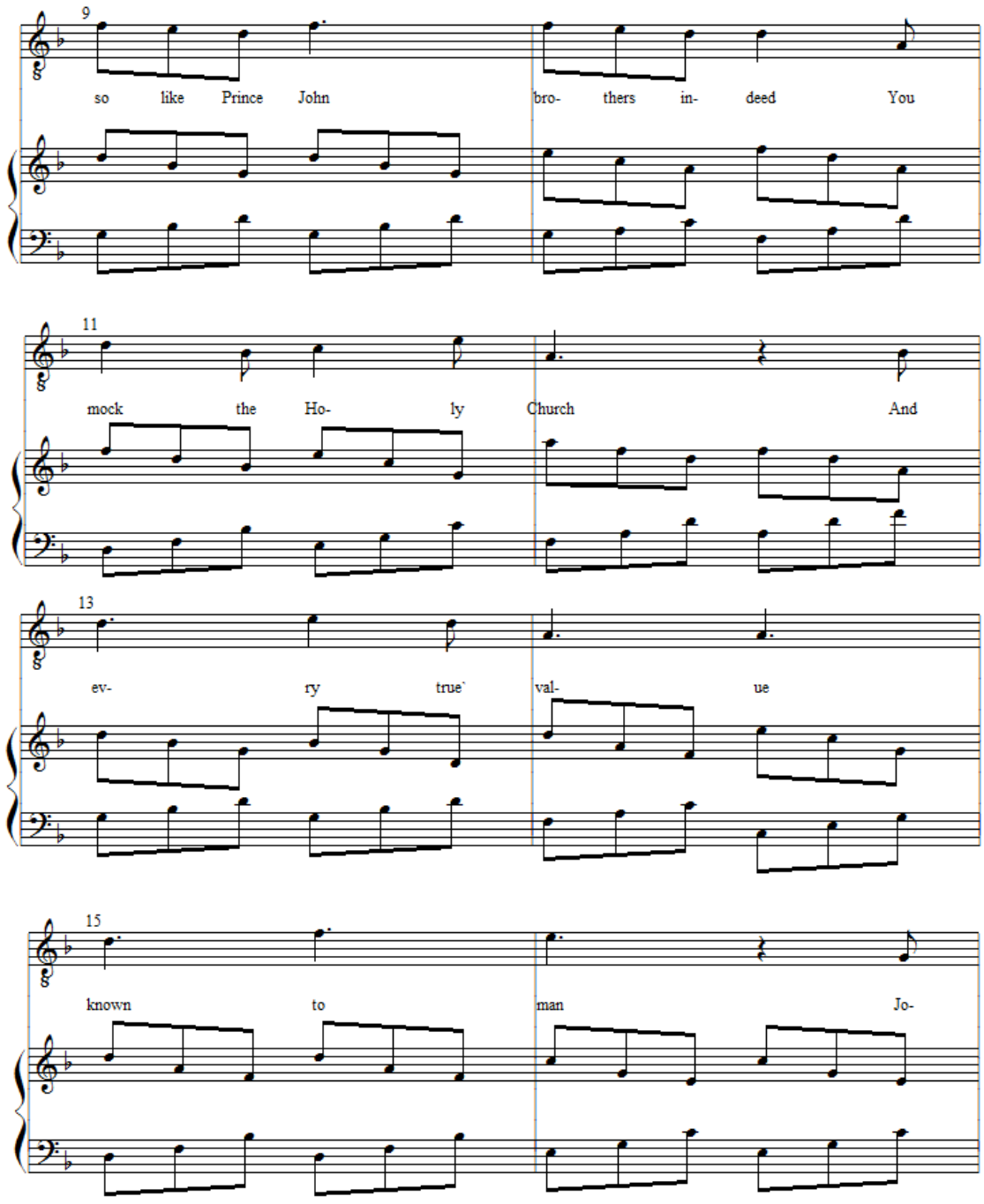

5
9
13
King Phil- ip's troops have
Peace with ho- nor that's what
17
gone a- way My own troops are now de- mo- ra-
you'd call it You would wed me to an in- fi-
19
lized Prince John can now his oath be- tray And
del I beg you please now re- call it to this

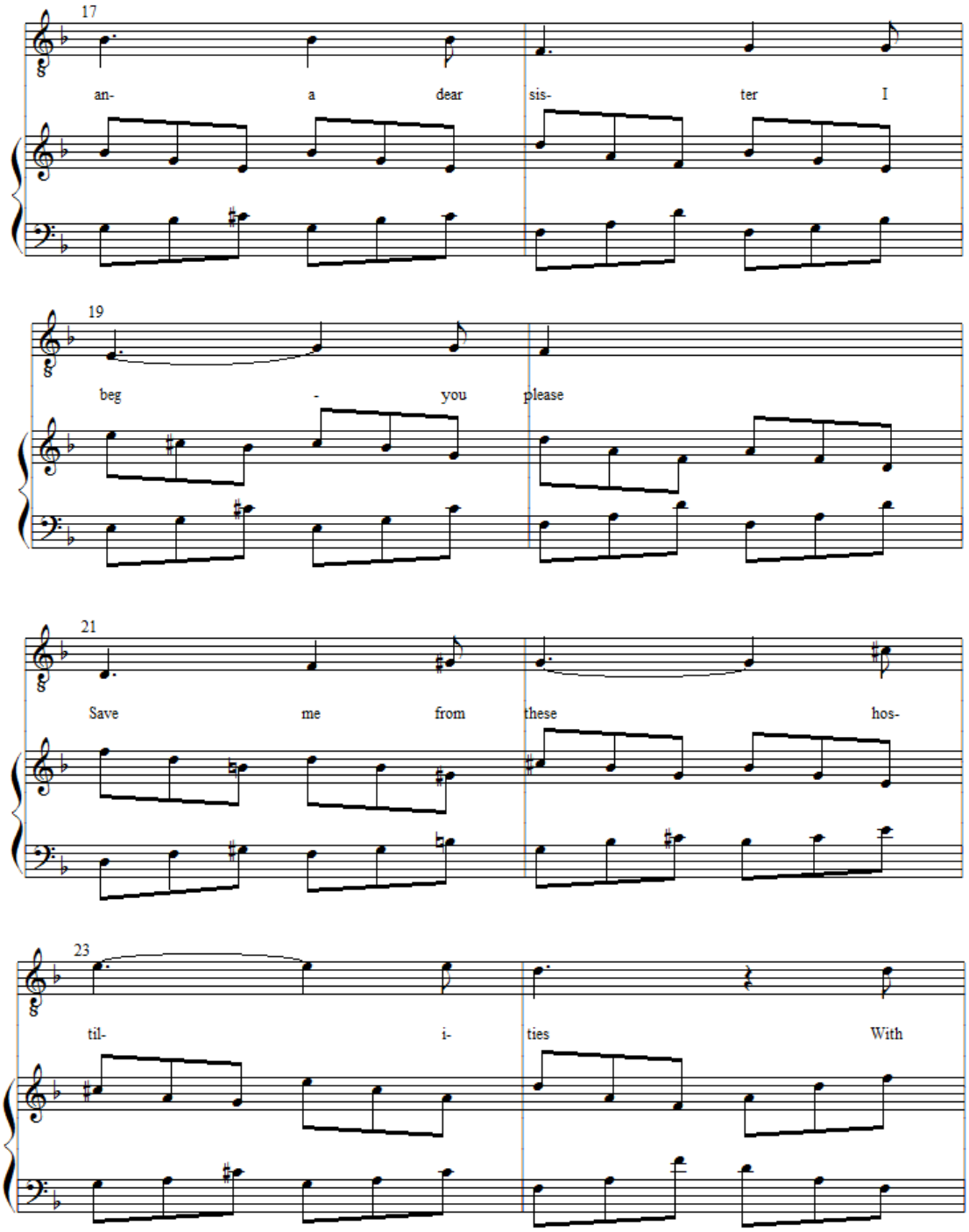

22
leave my em- pire jeo- par- dized Both he and phil- ip
great dis- hon- or I re- bel Your goal was al- ways to
25
now try to seize the lands I left too un- pro-
slaugh- ter the Turks to stamp out this blas- phe- mous
27
tec- ted De - fend- ing the Cross while
creed And now you pro- pose with
29
o- ver- seas My king- dom I've left too much ne-
cy- ni- cal smirks A tie you would once ne- ver con-
31
glec- ted This cru- sade must end with- out de-
cede Dear - sis- ter one's goals can al- ways
33
lay I need a truce with
change Like the wind they move in

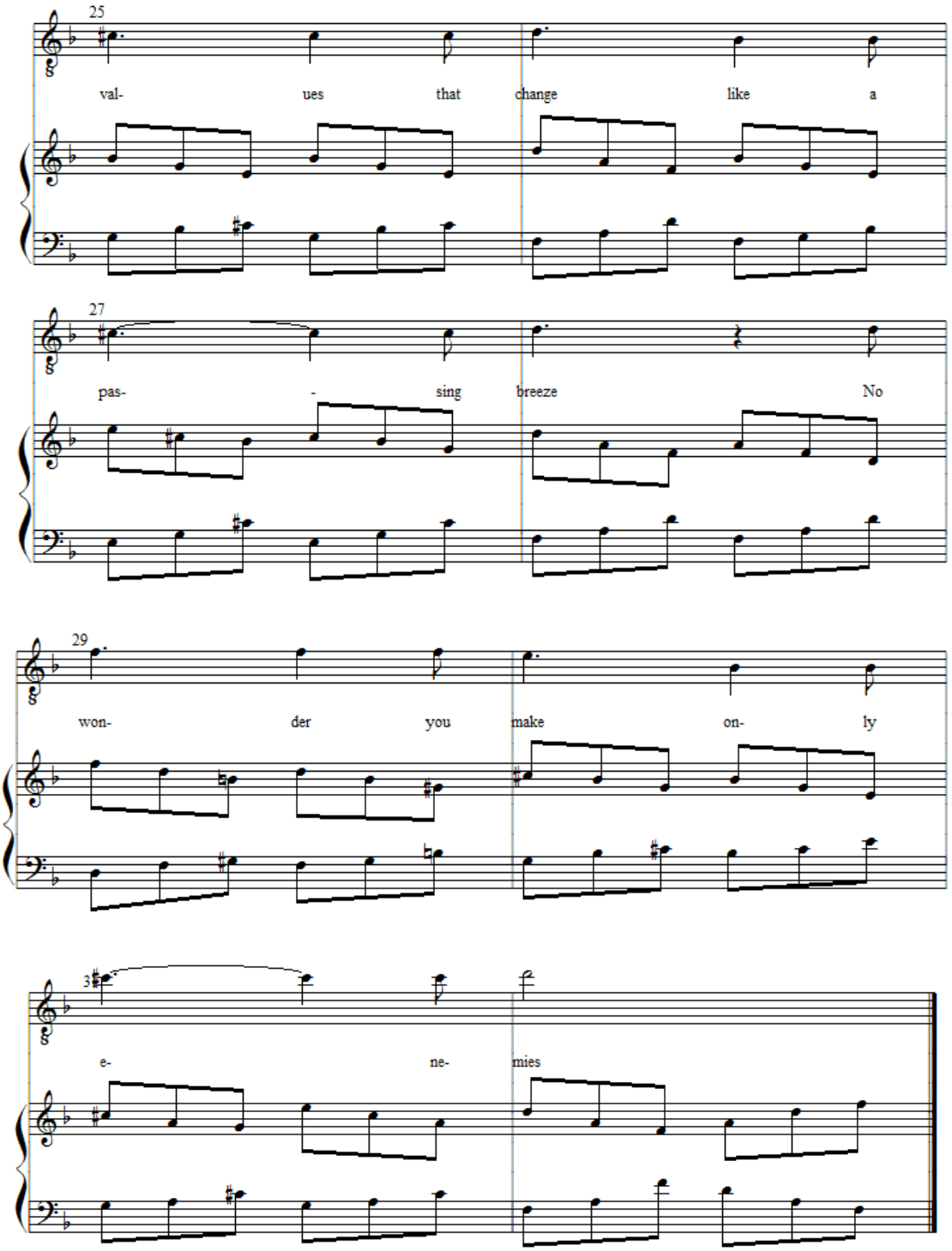

35
Sal- a- din Peace with ho- nor I must por-
diff rent routes What is right or wrong can
37
tray I must ex- it with my name come
change to con- form to all our heart's pur-
39
clean Dear - sis- ter the an- swer is
suits A- ny goal can seem lof- ty if you
41
in your hands Sal- a- din's bro- ther will
spin a good tale Make mon- ey run hur- dles or
43
share with you Je- ru- sa- lem and
win at chess Seek the source of the Nile or the
45
o- ther lands If with mar- riage we can
Ho- ly Grail Find the age of the earth or

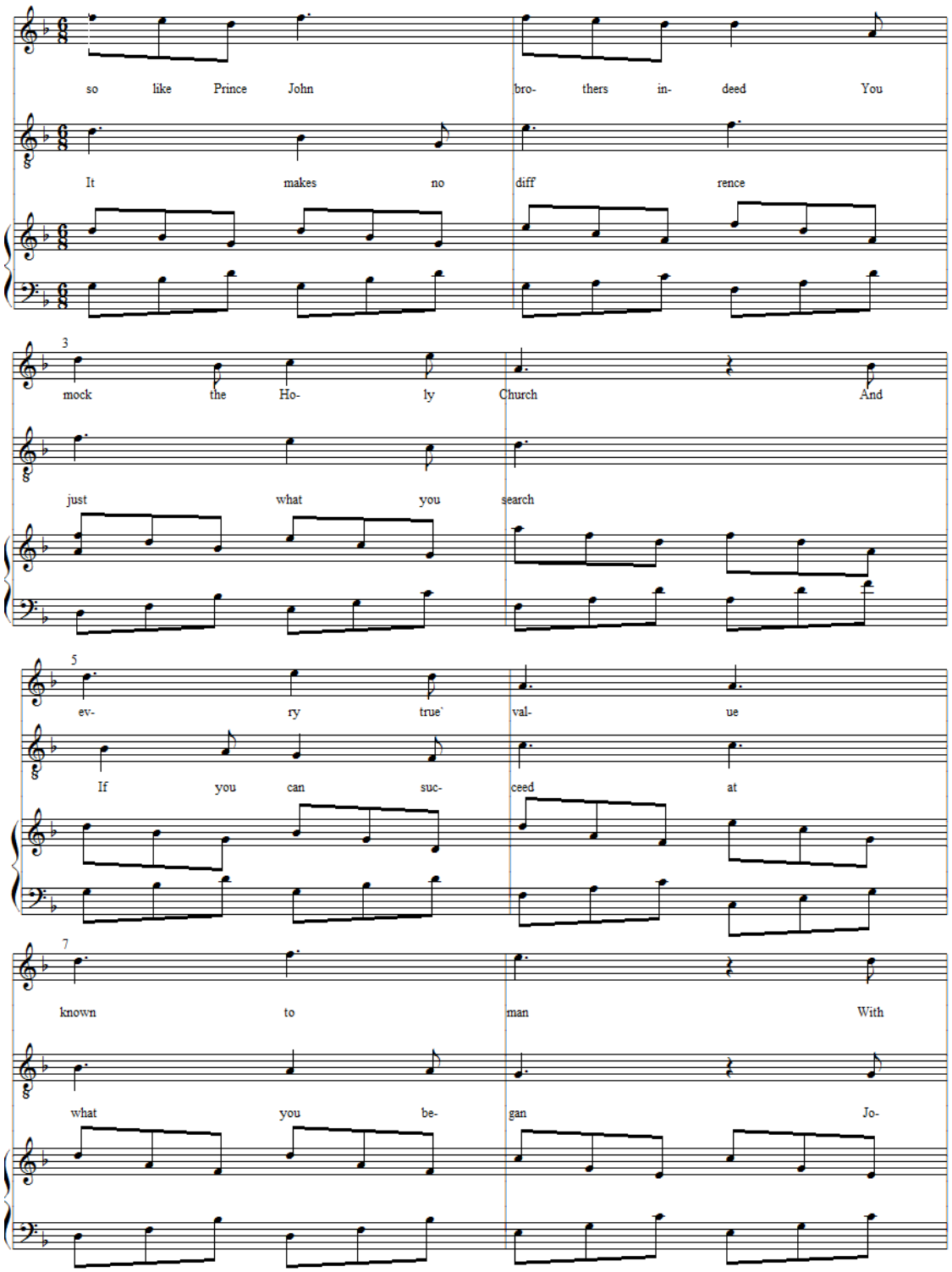

47
join the two.
save a prin- cess
49
51

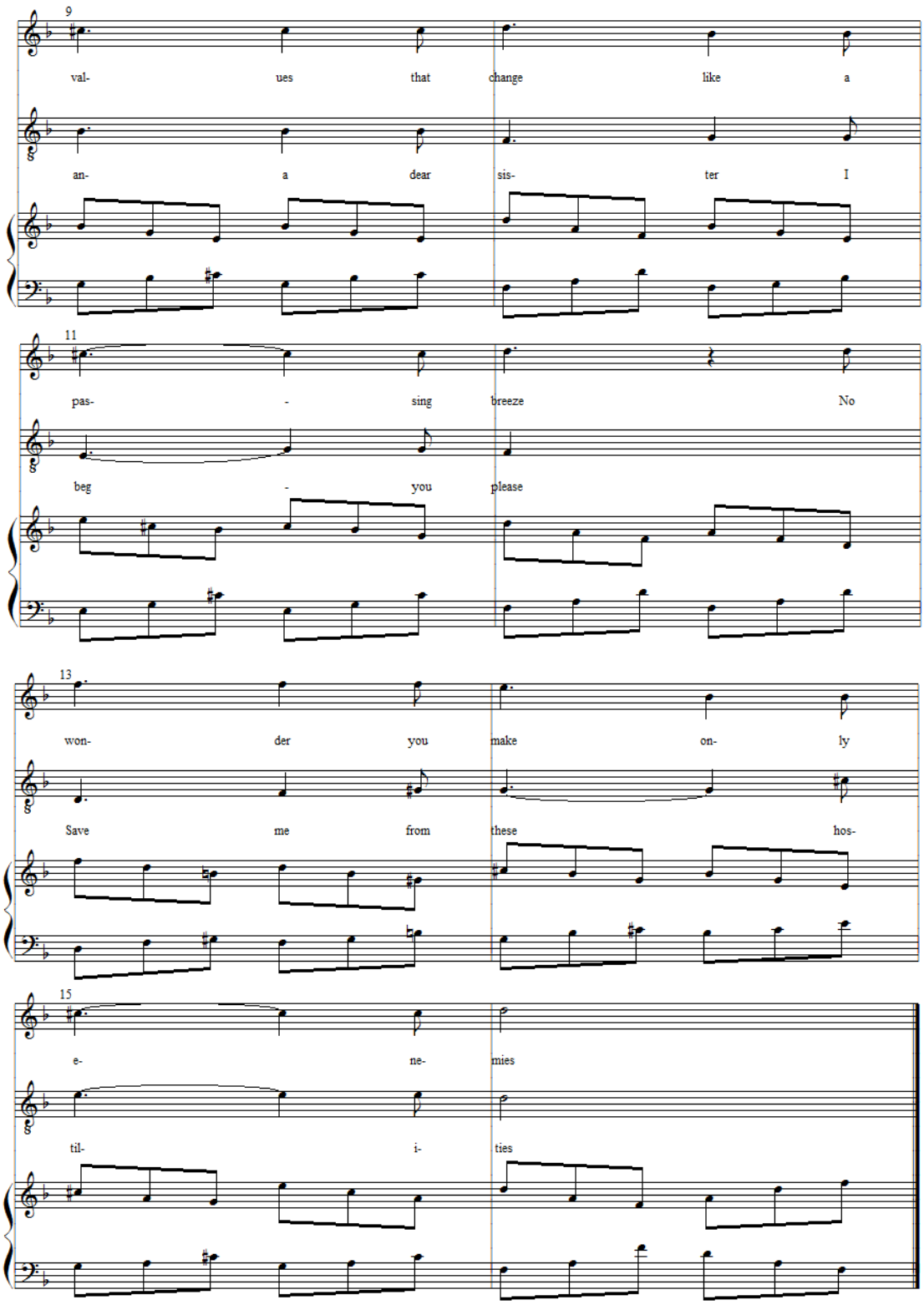

It makes no diff rence
3
just what you search
5
If you can suc- ceed at
7
what you be- gan


9
so like Prince John
bro- thers in- deed You
11
mock the Ho- ly Church And
13
ev- ry true` val- ue
15
known to man Jo-

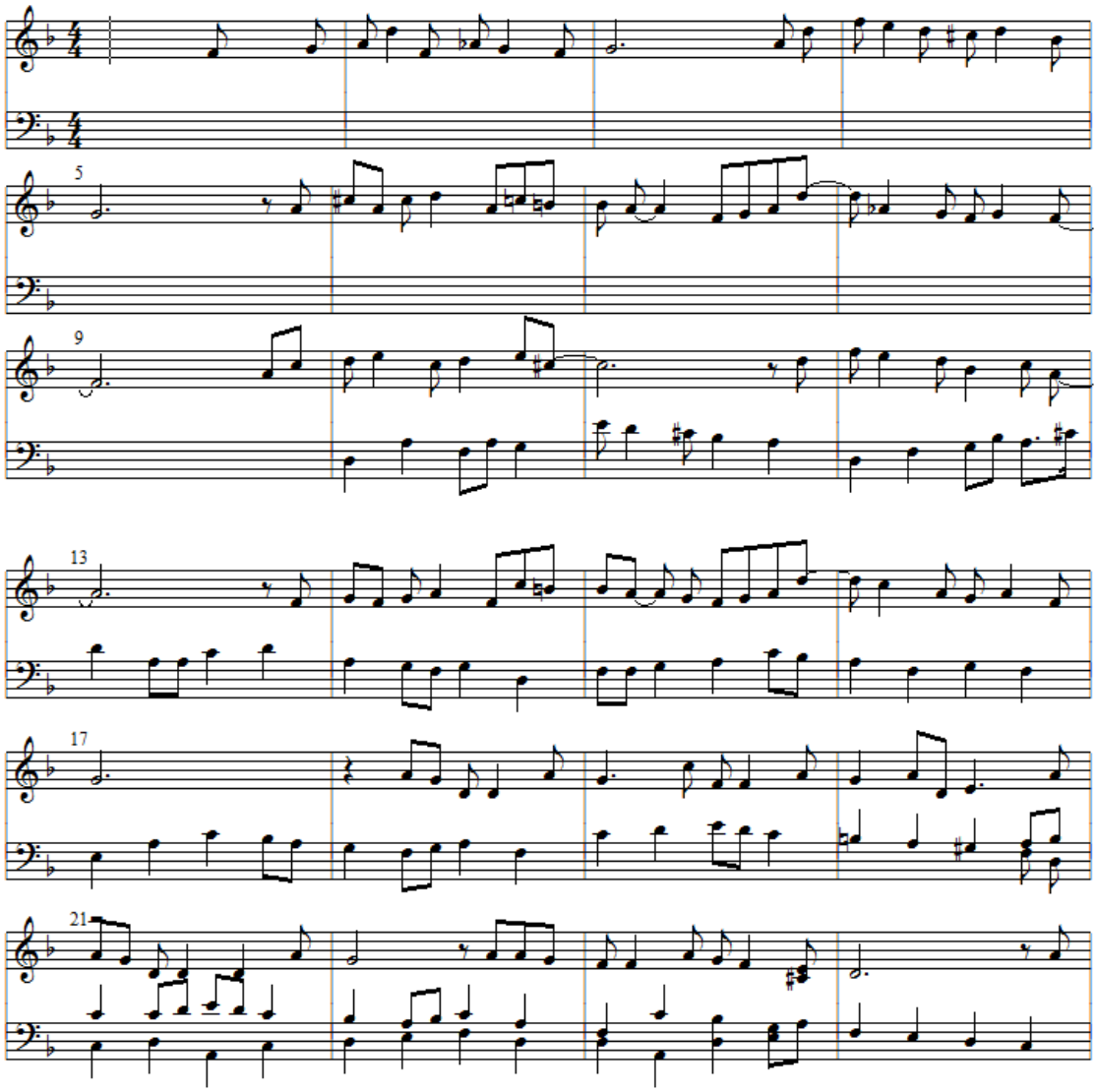

17
an- a dear sis- ter I
19
beg - you please
21
Save me from these hos-
23
til- i- ties With

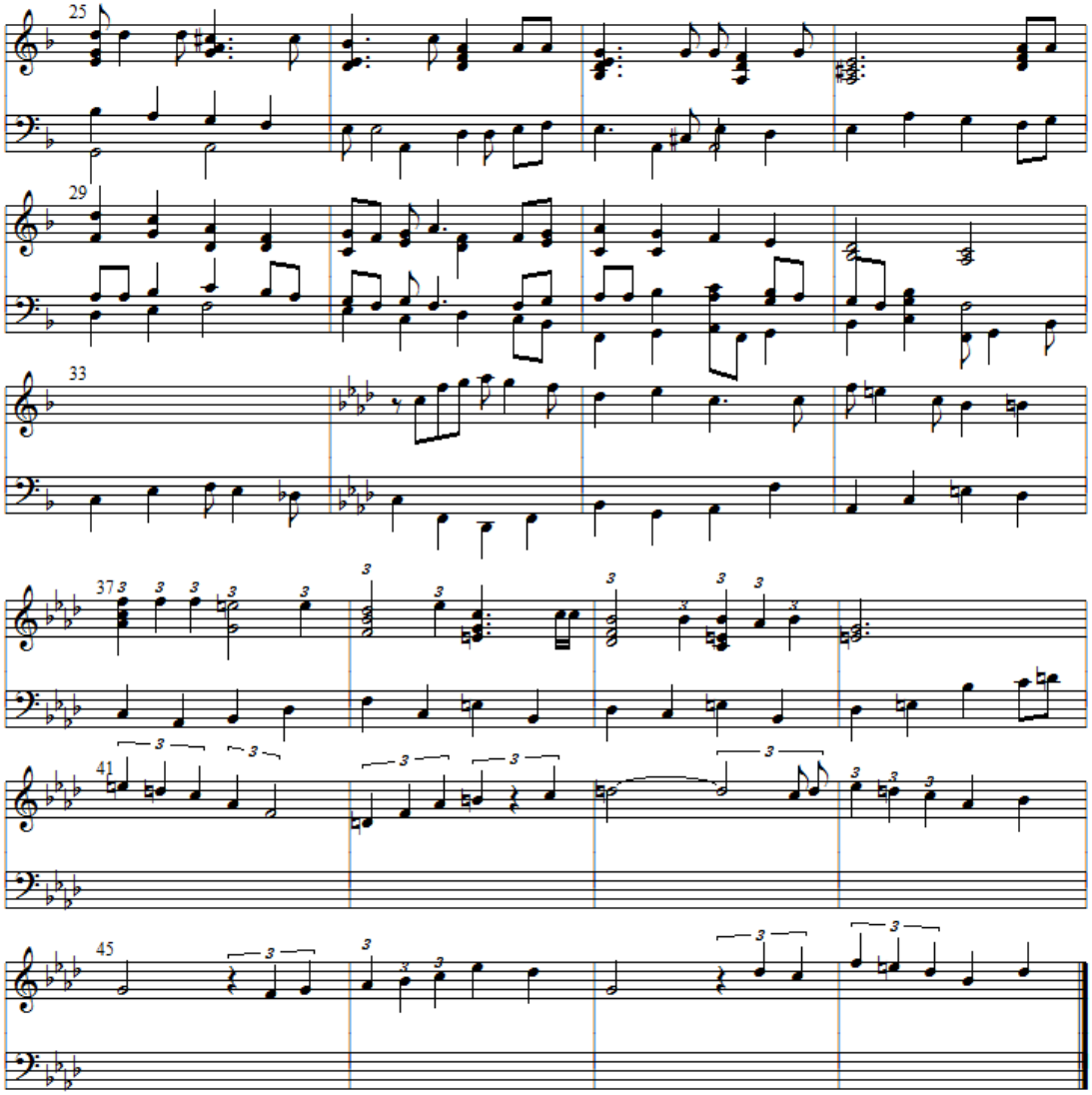

25
val- ues that change like a
27
pas- - sing breeze No
29
won- der you make on- ly
31
e- ne- mies


so like Prince John bro- thers in- deed You
It makes no diff rence
3
mock the Ho- ly Church And
just what you search
5
ev- ry true` val- ue
If you can suc- ceed at
7
known to man With
what you be- gan Jo-

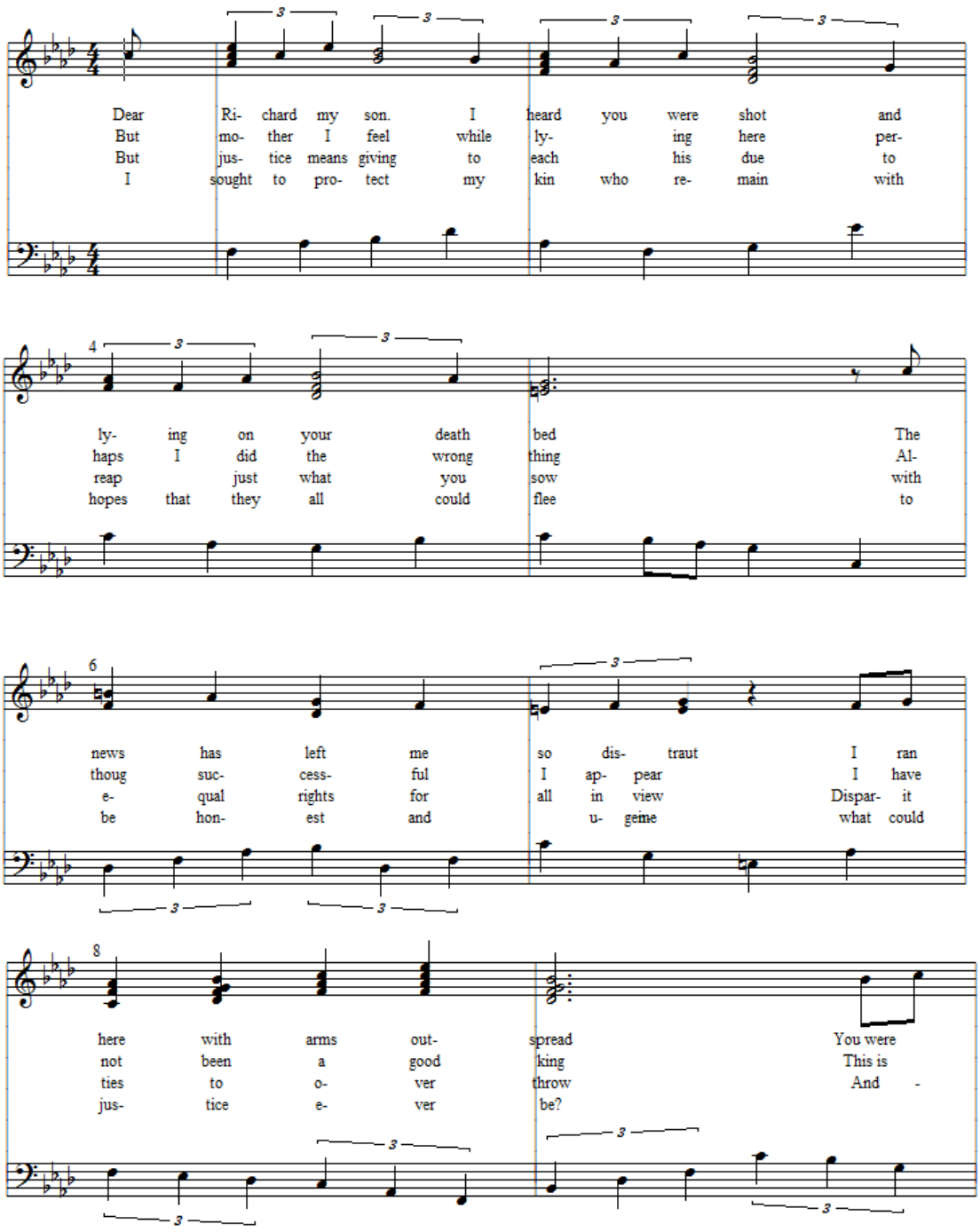

9
val- ues that change like a
an- a dear sis- ter I
11
pas- - sing breeze No
beg - you please
13
won- der you make on- ly
Save me from these hos-
15
e- ne- mies
til- i- ties

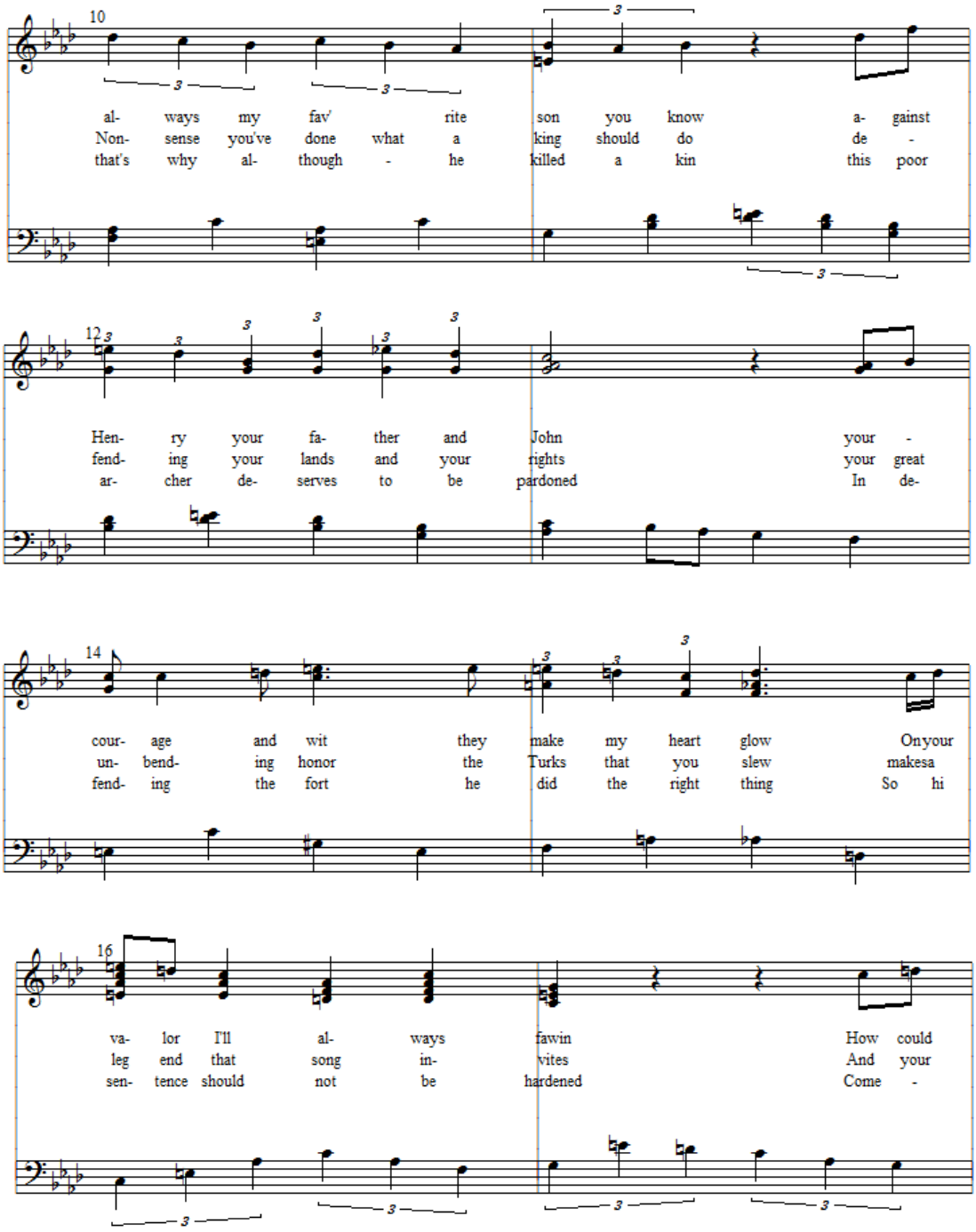
Act IV

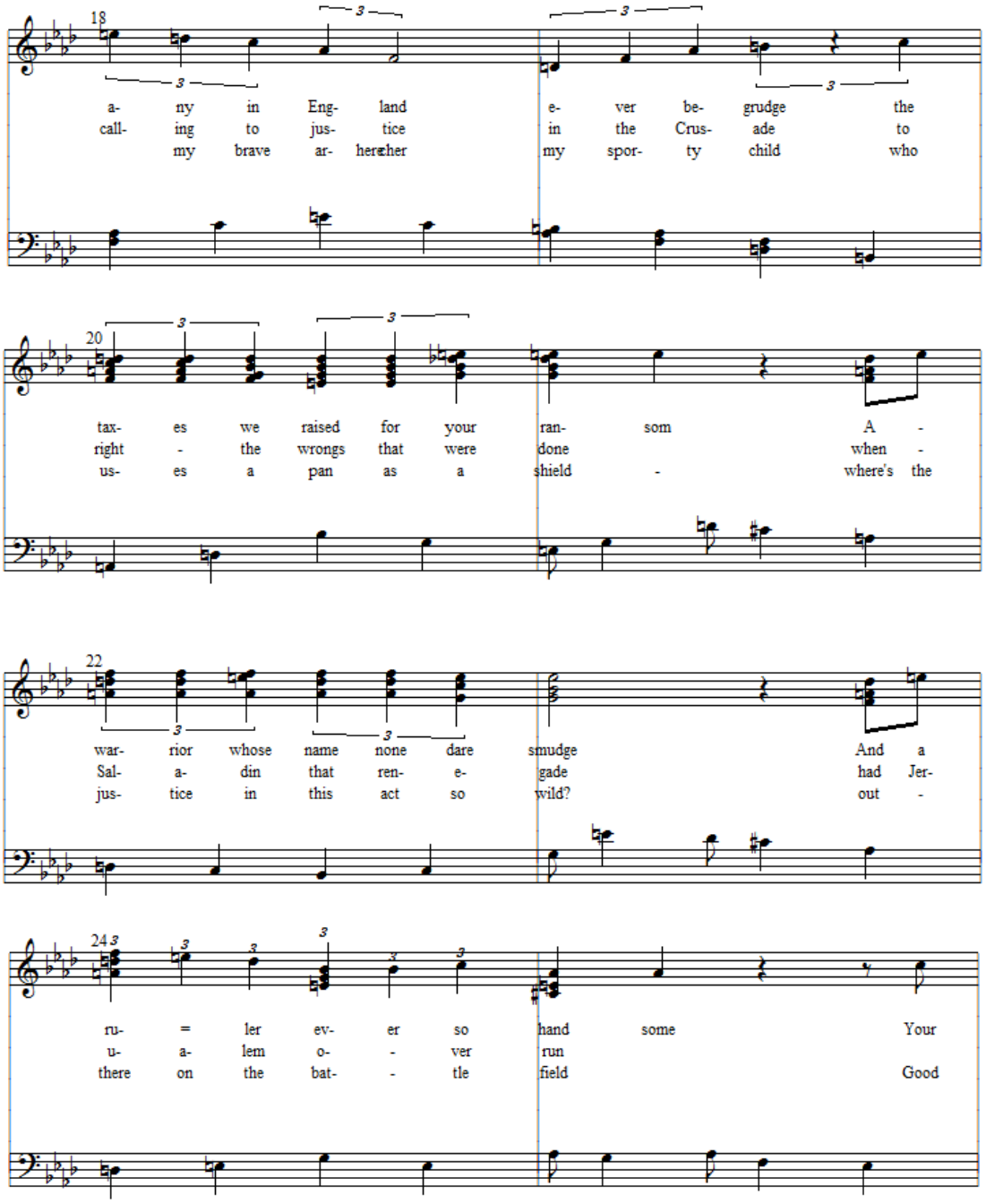


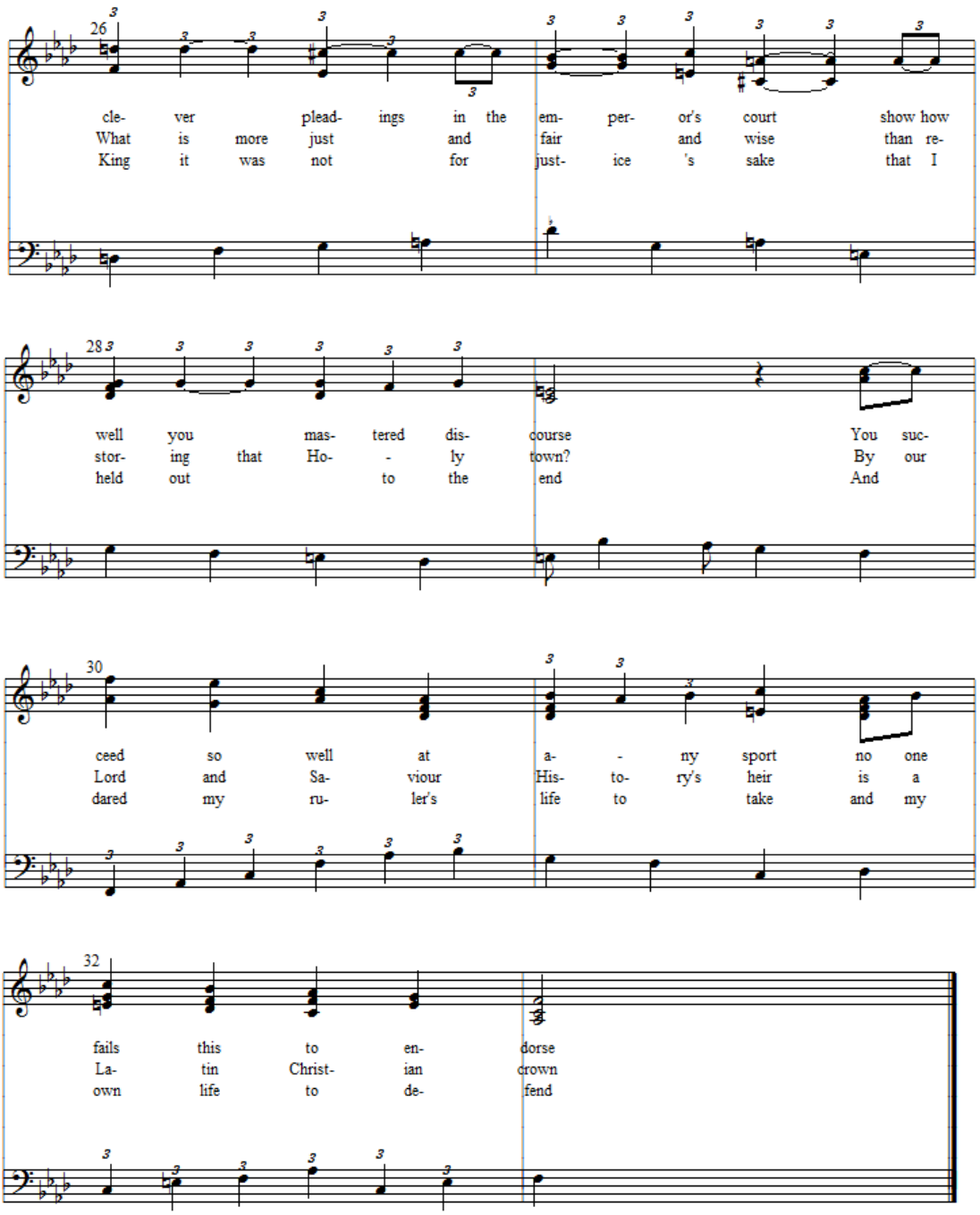

25
29
33
37
41
45

Dear Richard My Son

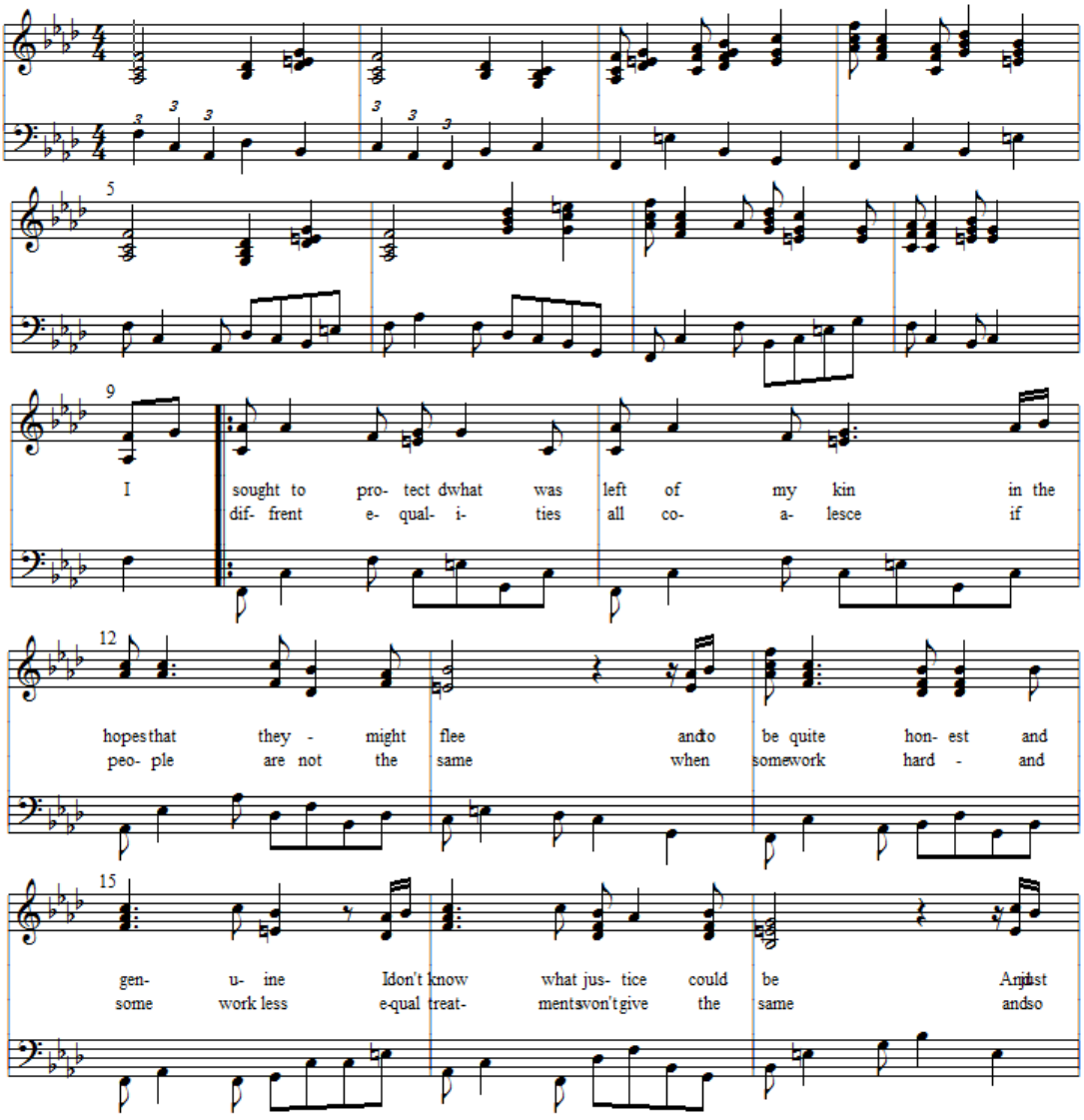


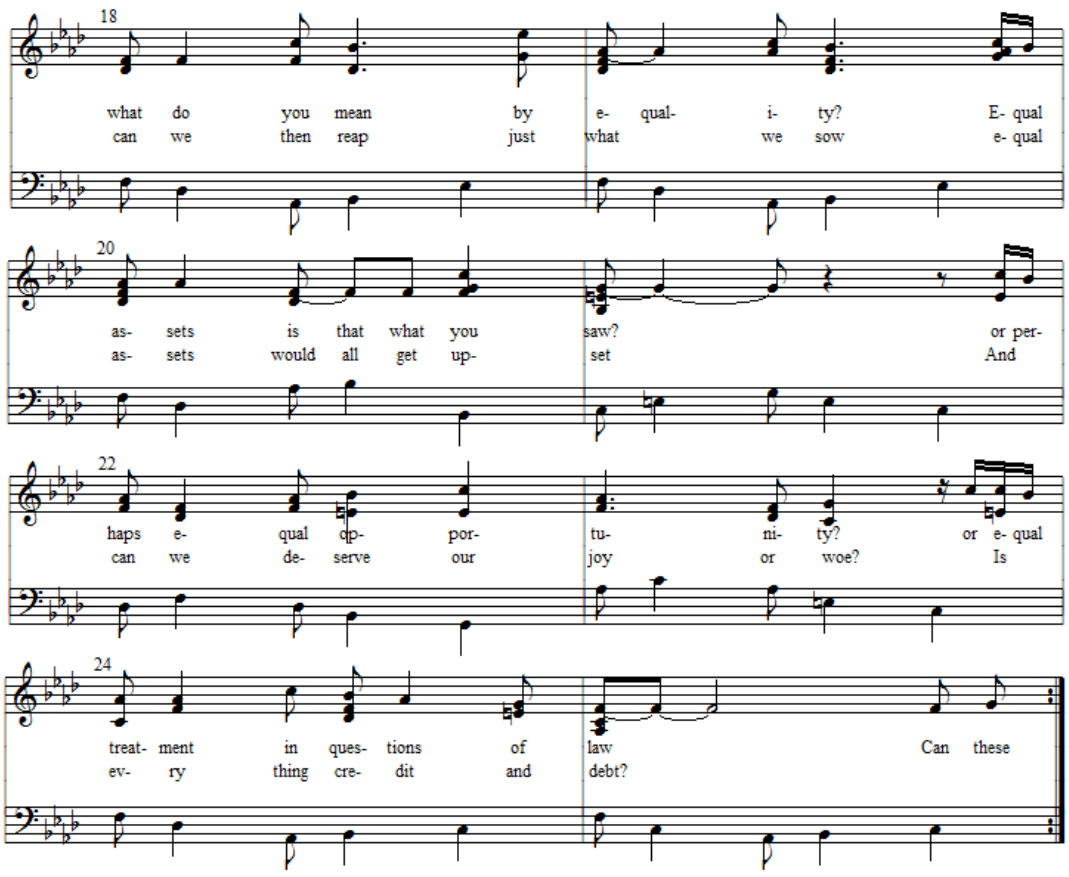

10
al- ways my fav' rite son you know a- gainst
Non- sense you've done what a king should do de -
that's why al- though - he killed a kin this poor
12
Hen- ry your fa- ther and John your -
fend- ing your lands and your rights your great
ar- cher de- serves to be pardoned In de-
14
cour- age and wit they make my heart glow Onyour
un- bend- ing honor the Turks that you slew makesa
fend- ing the fort he did the right thing So hi
16
va- lor I'll al- ways fawin How could
leg end that song in- vites And your
sen- tence should not be hardened Come -


18
a- ny in Eng- land e- ver be- grudge the
call- ing to jus- tice in the Crus- ade to
my brave ar- herher my spor- ty child who
20
tax- es we raised for your ran- som A -
right - the wrongs that were done when -
us- es a pan as a shield - where's the
22
war- rior whose name none dare smudge And a
Sal- a- din that ren- e- gade had Jer-
jus- tice in this act so wild? out -
24
ru- = ler ev- er so hand some Your
u- a- lem o- - ver run
there on the bat- - tle field Good

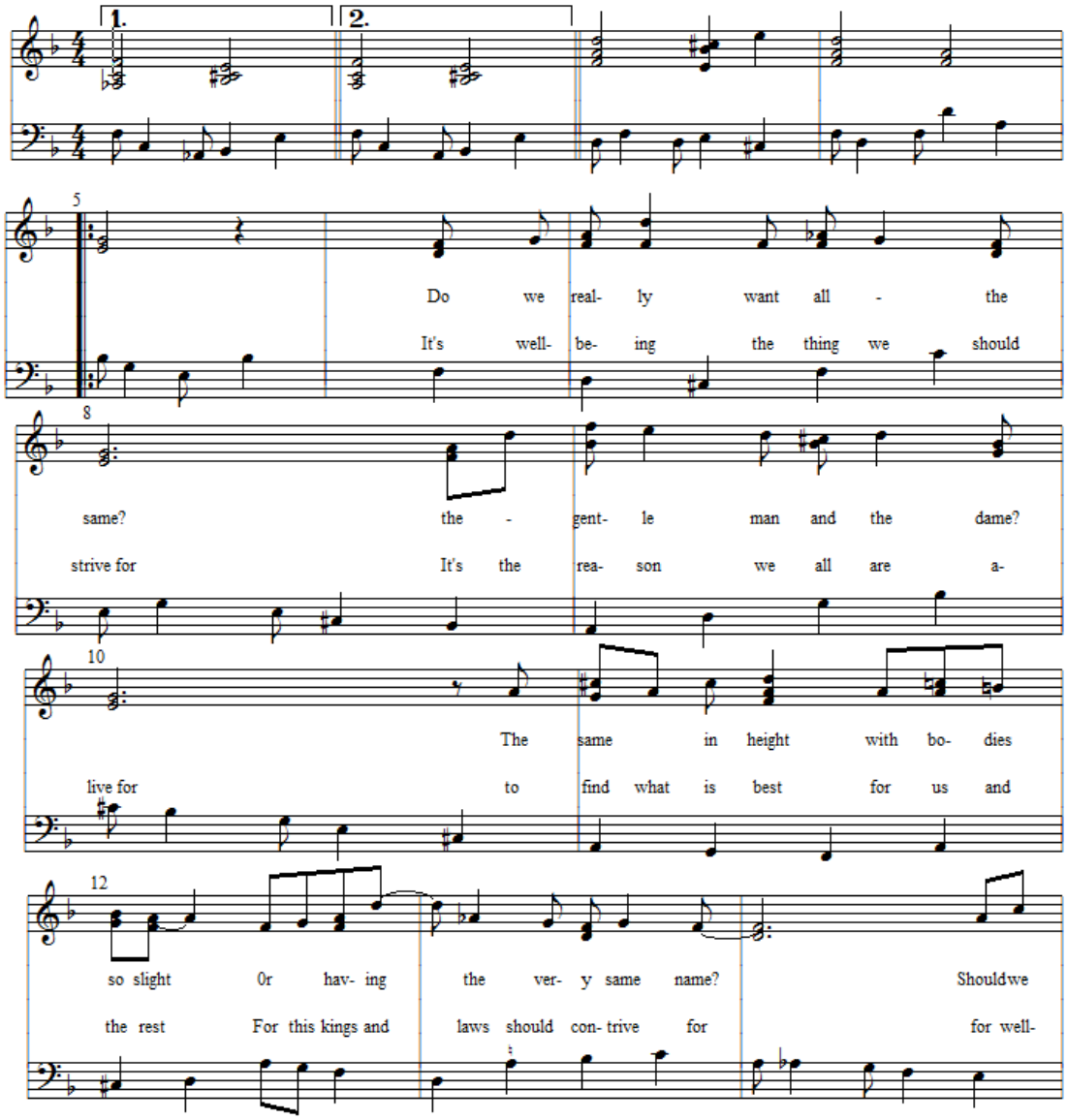

26
cle- ver plead- ings in the em- per- or's court show how
What is more just and fair and wise than re-
King it was not for just- ice 's sake that I
28
well you mas- tered dis- course You suc-
stor- ing that Ho- - ly town? By our
held out to the end And
30
ceed so well at a- - ny sport no one
Lord and Sa- viour His- to- ry's heir is a
dared my ru- ler's life to take and my
32
fails this to en- dorse
La- tin Christ- ian crown
own life to de- fend

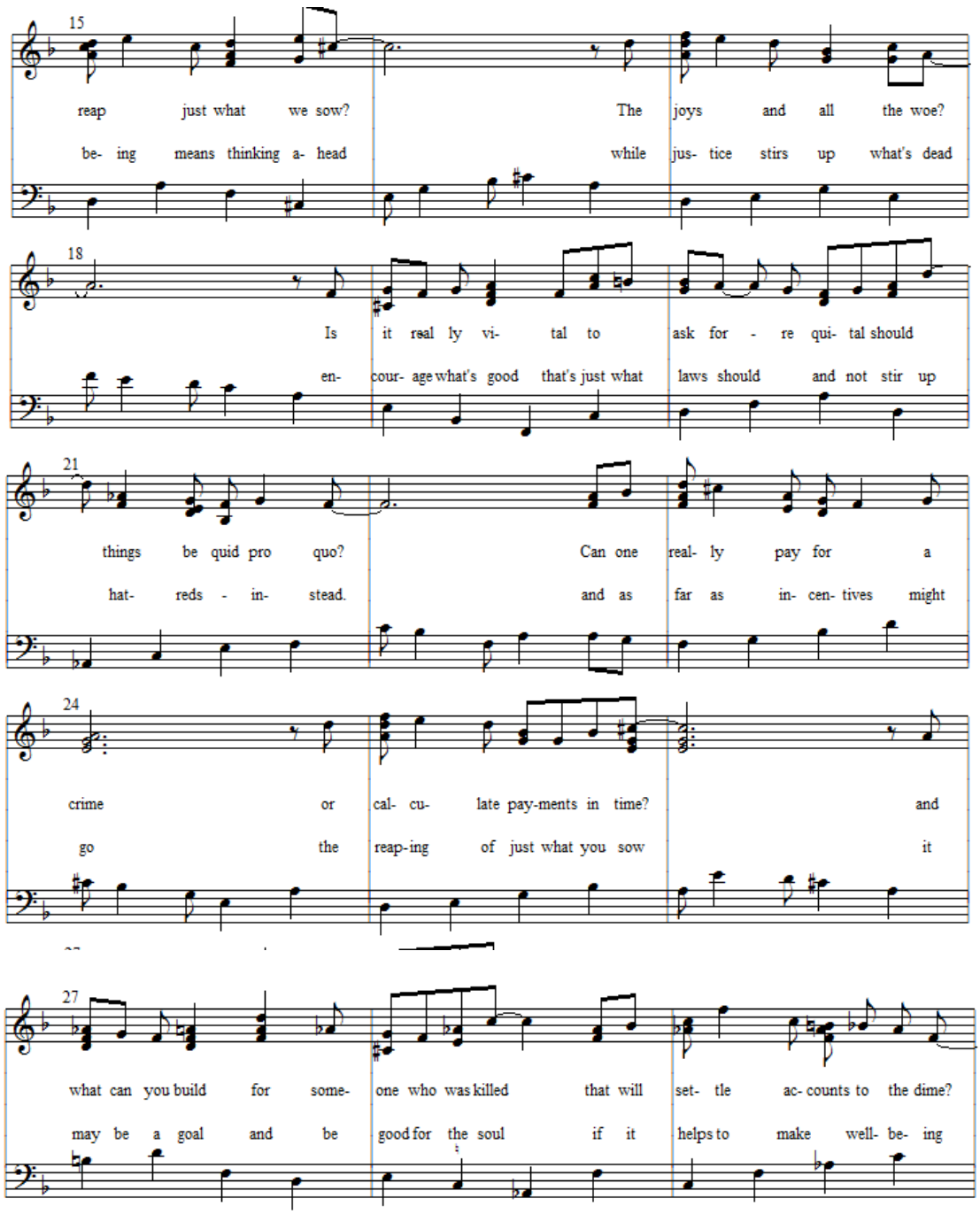
I sought to protect what was left of my kin

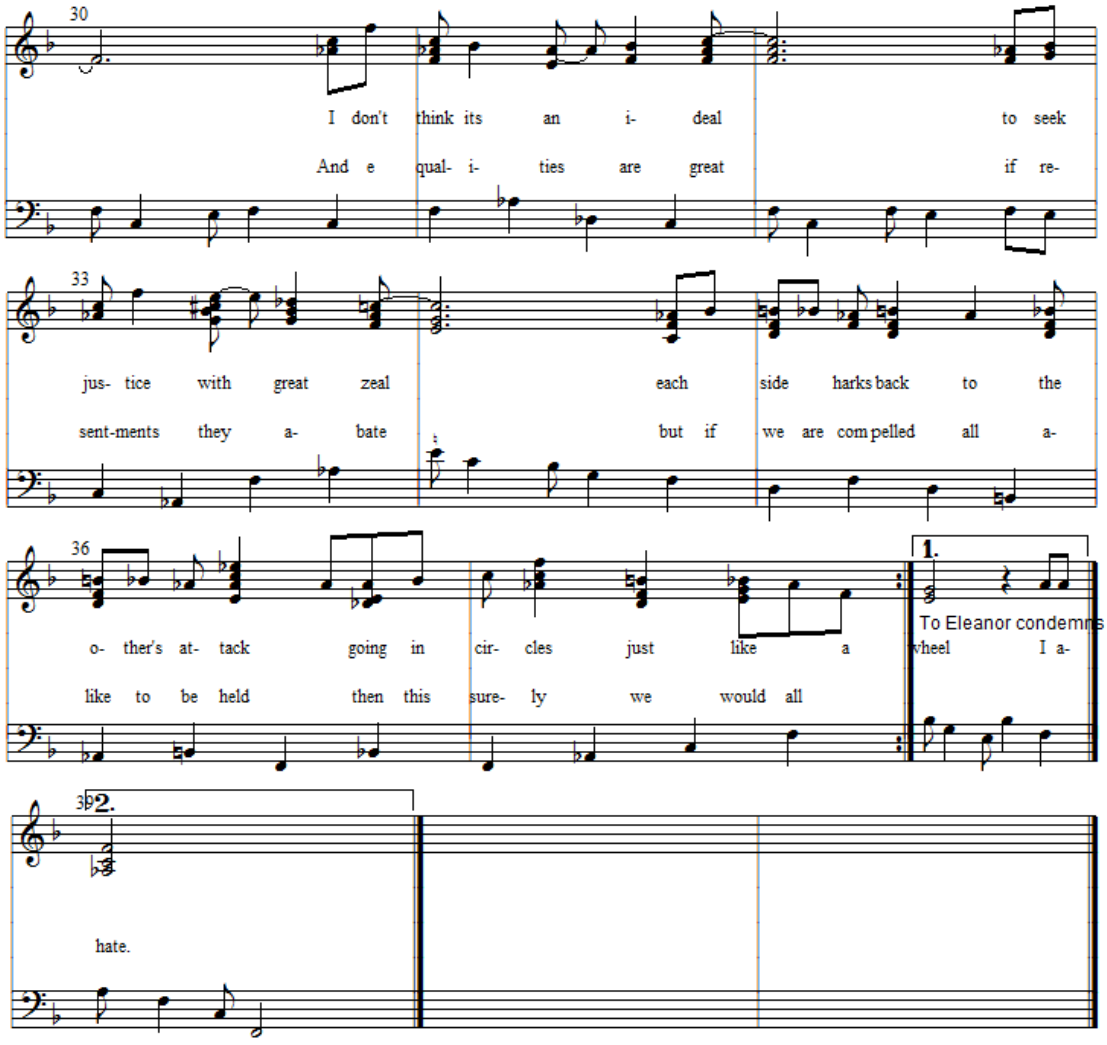



18
what do you mean by e- qual- i- ty? E- qual
can we then reap just what we sow e- qual
20
as- sets is that what you saw? or per-
as- sets would all get up- set And
22
haps e- qual op- por- tu- ni- ty? or e- qual
can we de- serve our joy or woe? Is
24
treat- ment in ques- tions of law Can these
ev- ry thing cre- dit and debt?

Do we really want all the same?



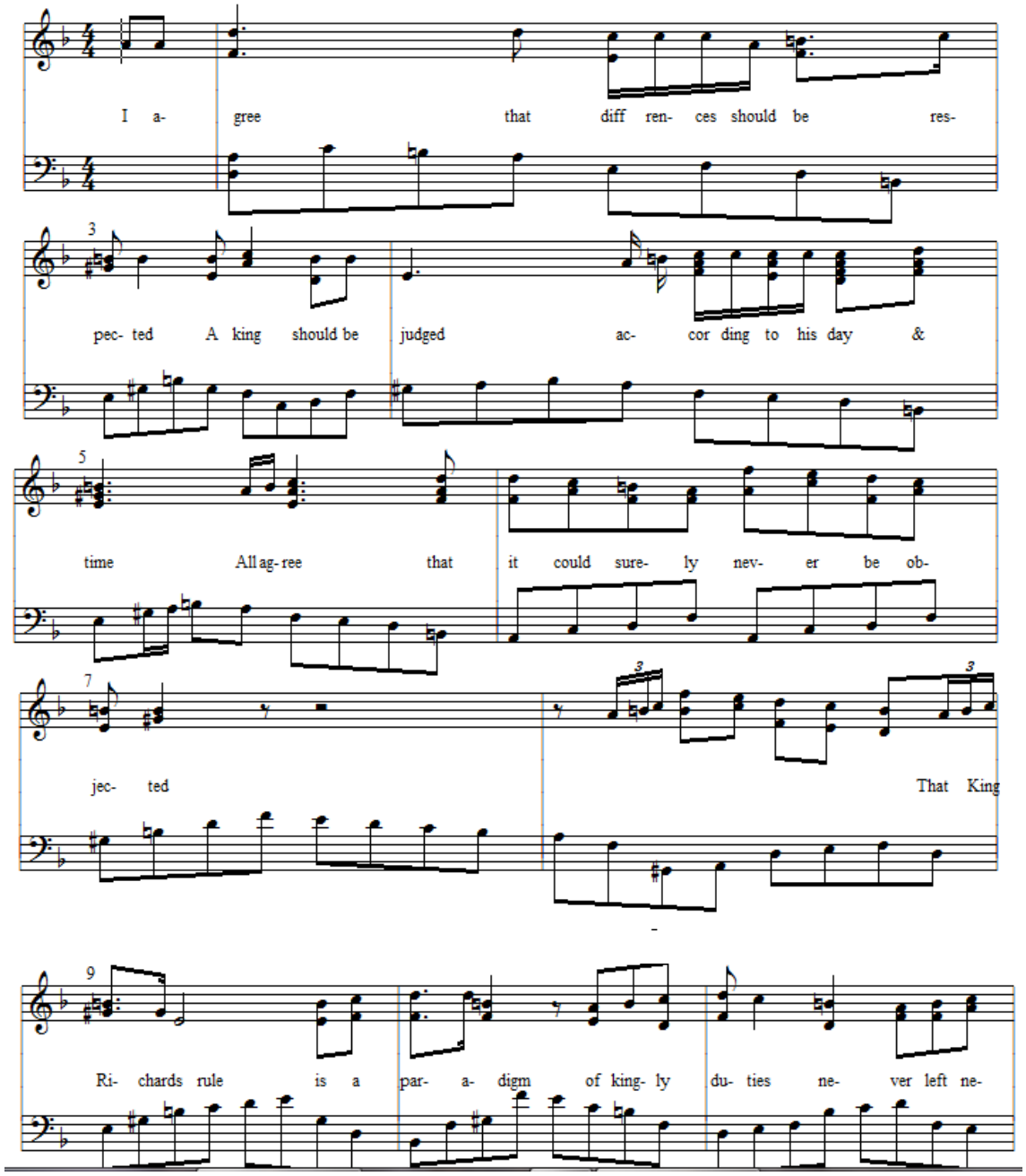

15
reap just what we sow? The joys and all the woe?
be- ing means thinking a- head while jus- tice stirs up what's dead
18
Is it real ly vi- tal to ask for - re qui- tal should
en- cour- age what's good that's just what laws should and not stir up
21
things be quid pro quo? Can one real- ly pay for a
hat- reds - in- stead. and as far as in- cen- tives might
24
crime or cal- cu- late pay-ments in time? and
go the reap-ing of just what you sow it
27
what can you build for some- one who was killed that will set- tle ac- counts to the dime?
may be a goal and be good for the soul if it helps to make well- be- ing

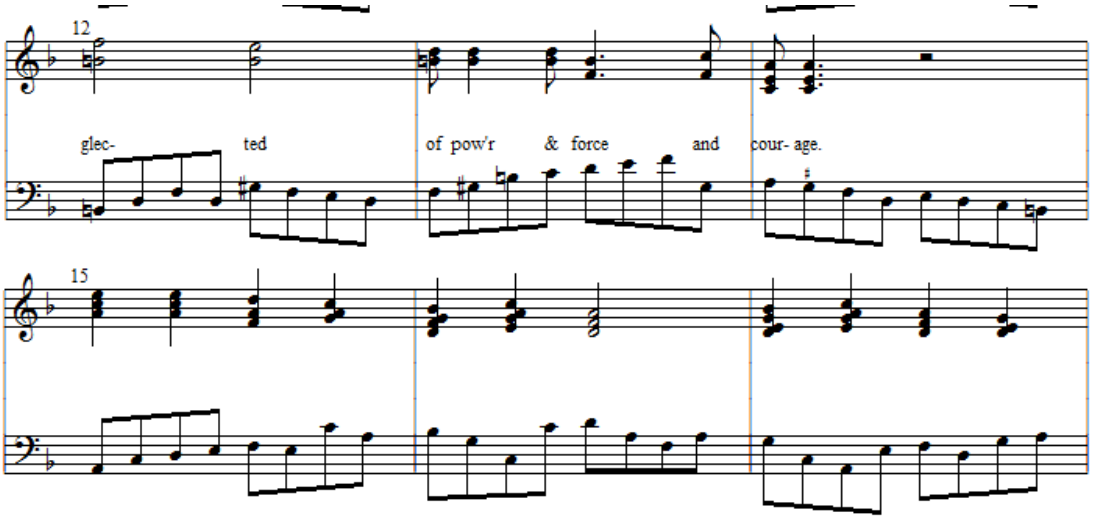


1st time Continue to "I agree that differences should be respected

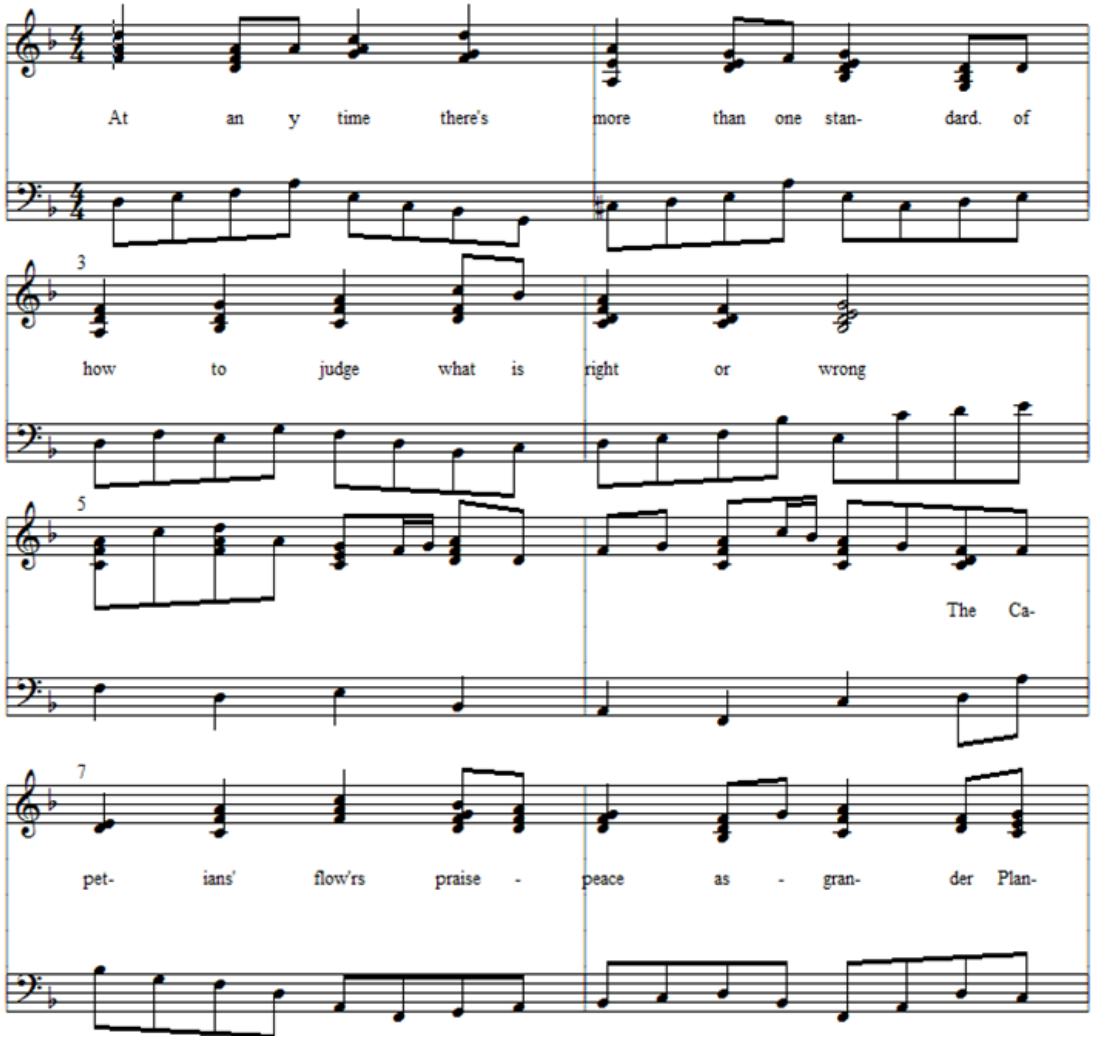
2nd time go to "but Stop King Richard now is dying"

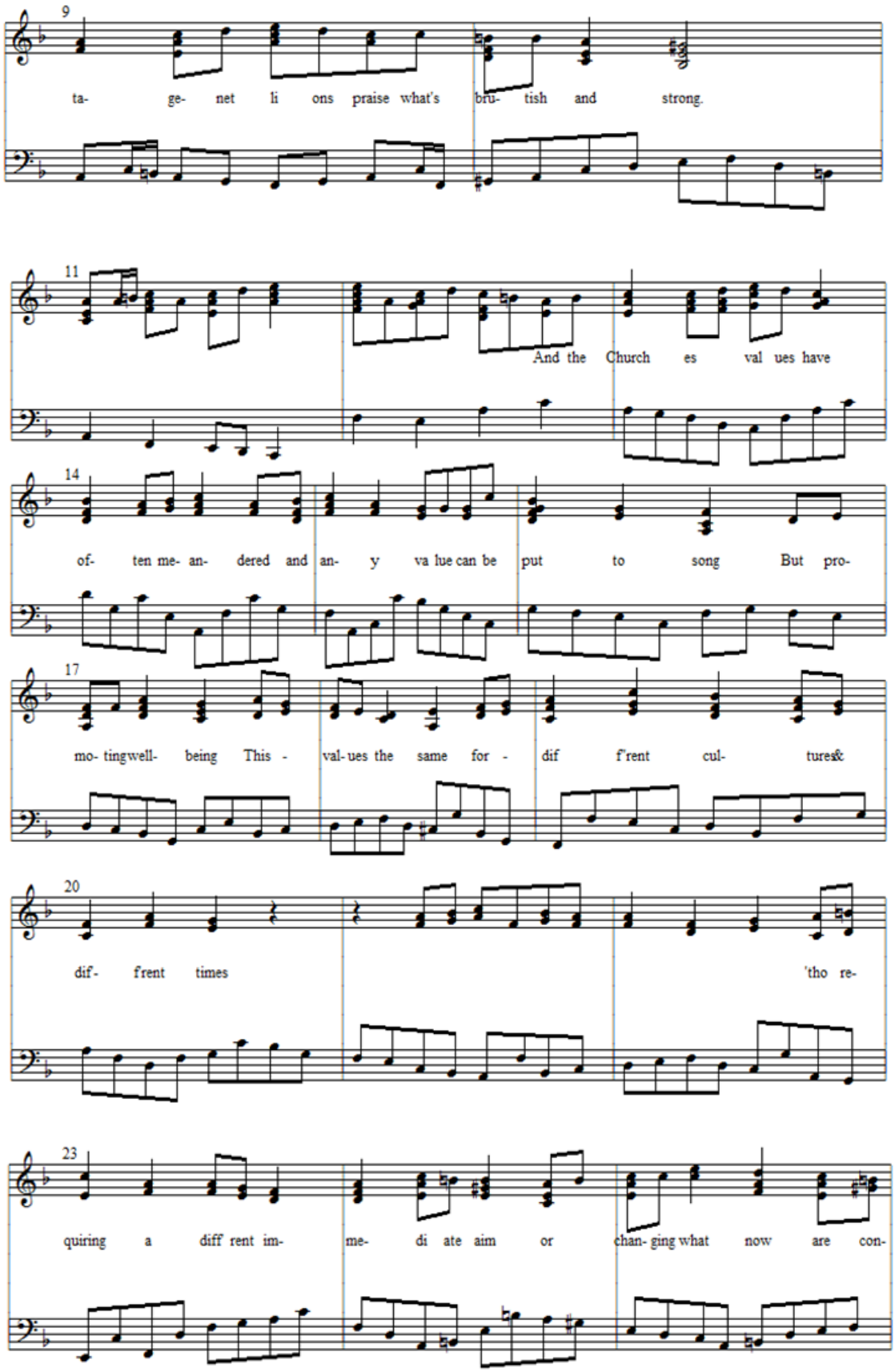
I agree that differences

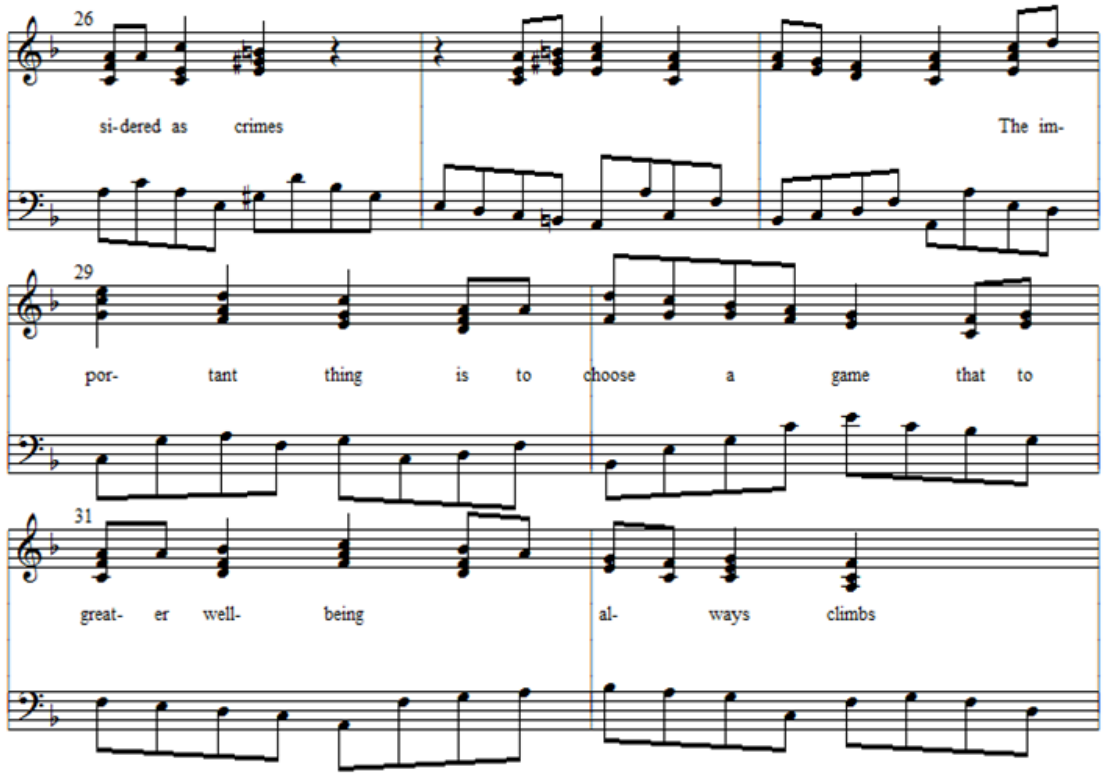




At any time there's more

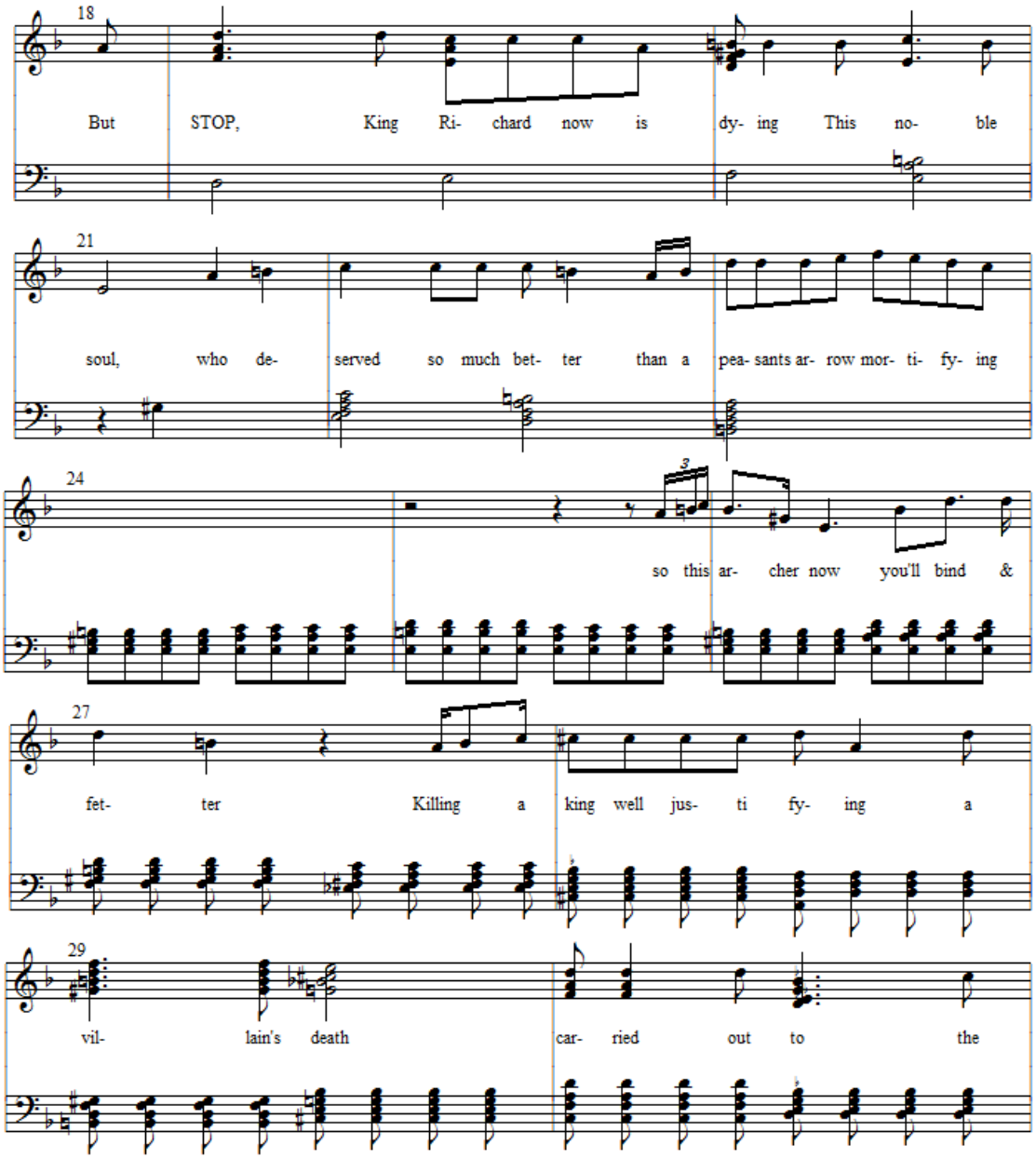


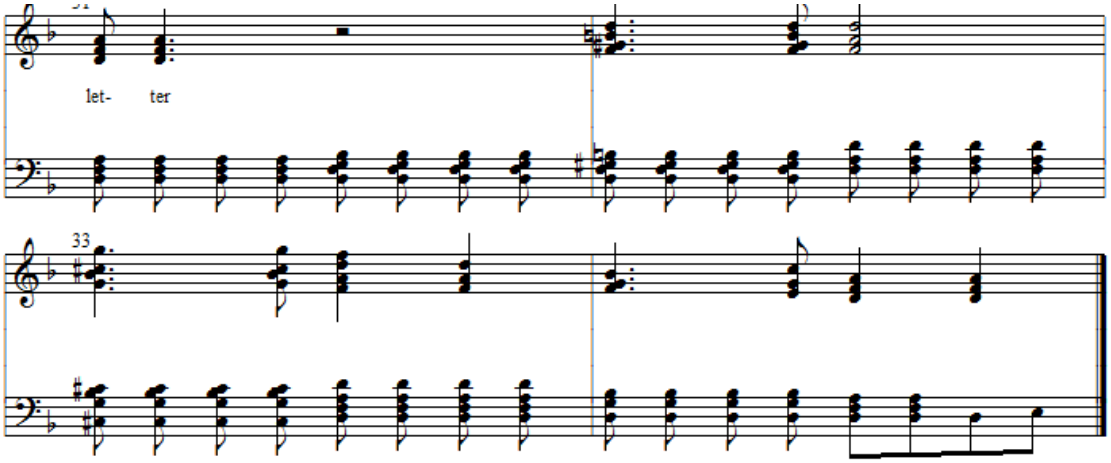

9
ta- ge- net li ons praise what's bru- tish and strong.
11
And the Church es val ues have
14
of- ten me- an- dered and an- y va lue can be put to song But pro-
17
mo- tingwell- being This - val- ues the same for - dif f'rent cul- tures&
20
dif- f'rent times 'tho re-
23
quiring a diff rent im- me- di ate aim or chan- ging what now are con-

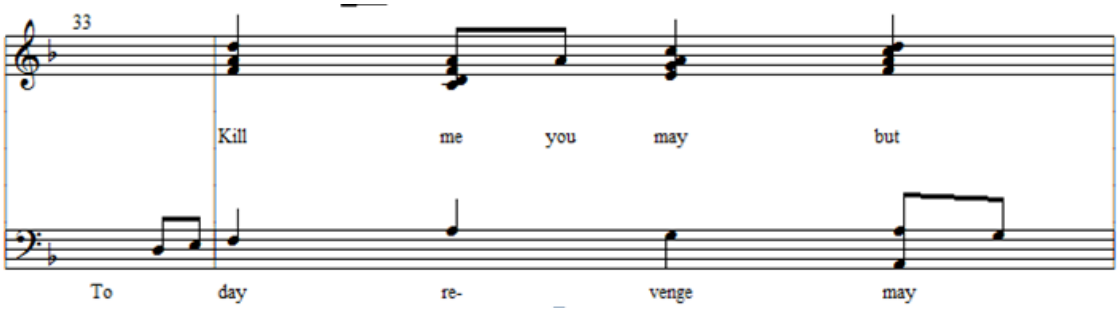


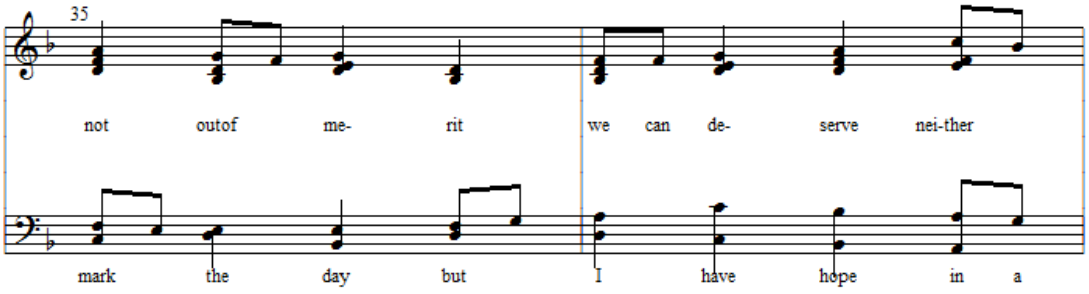
Back to 2nd verse of "Do we really want all the same"

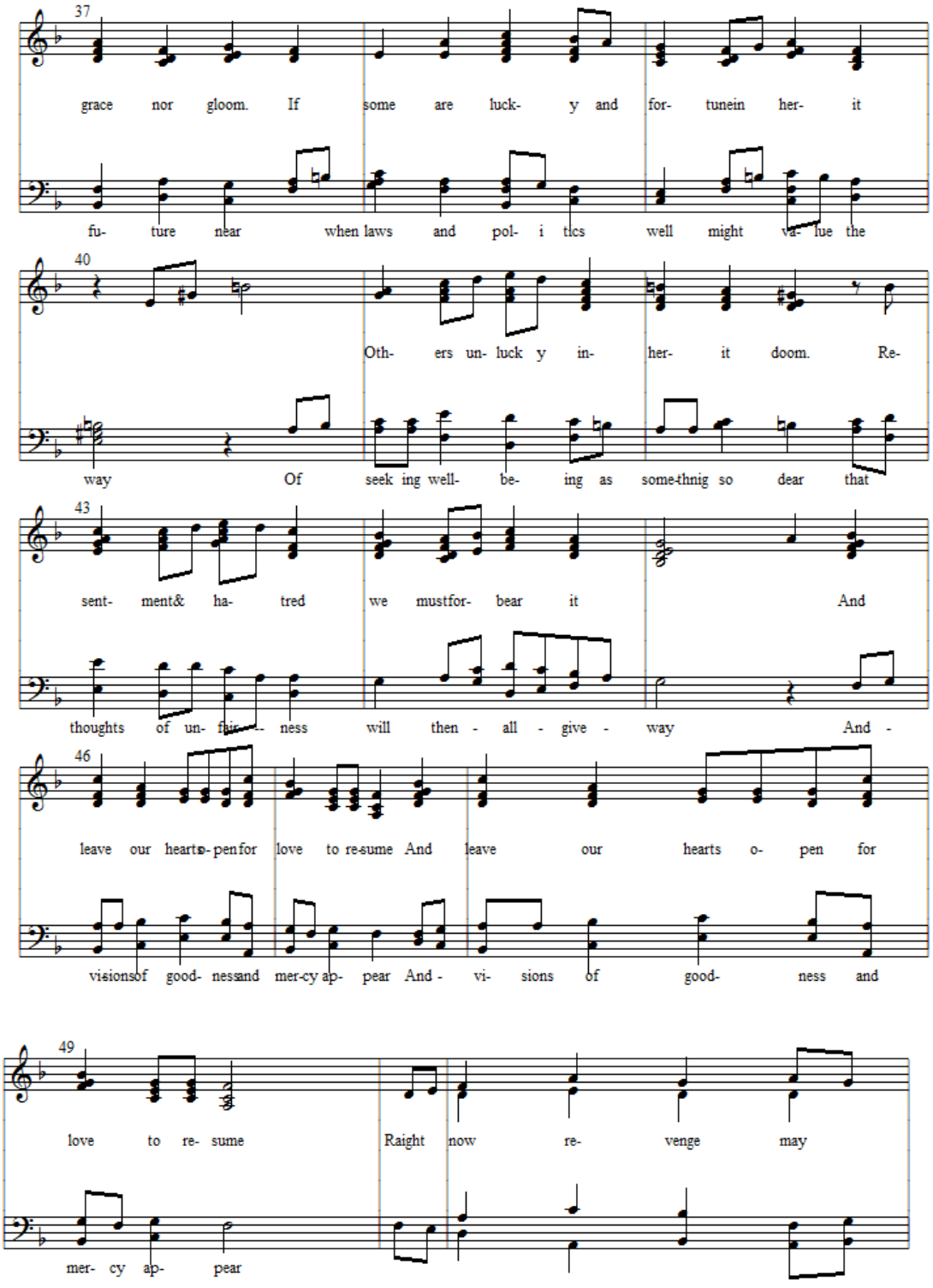
But Stop King Richard now is dying

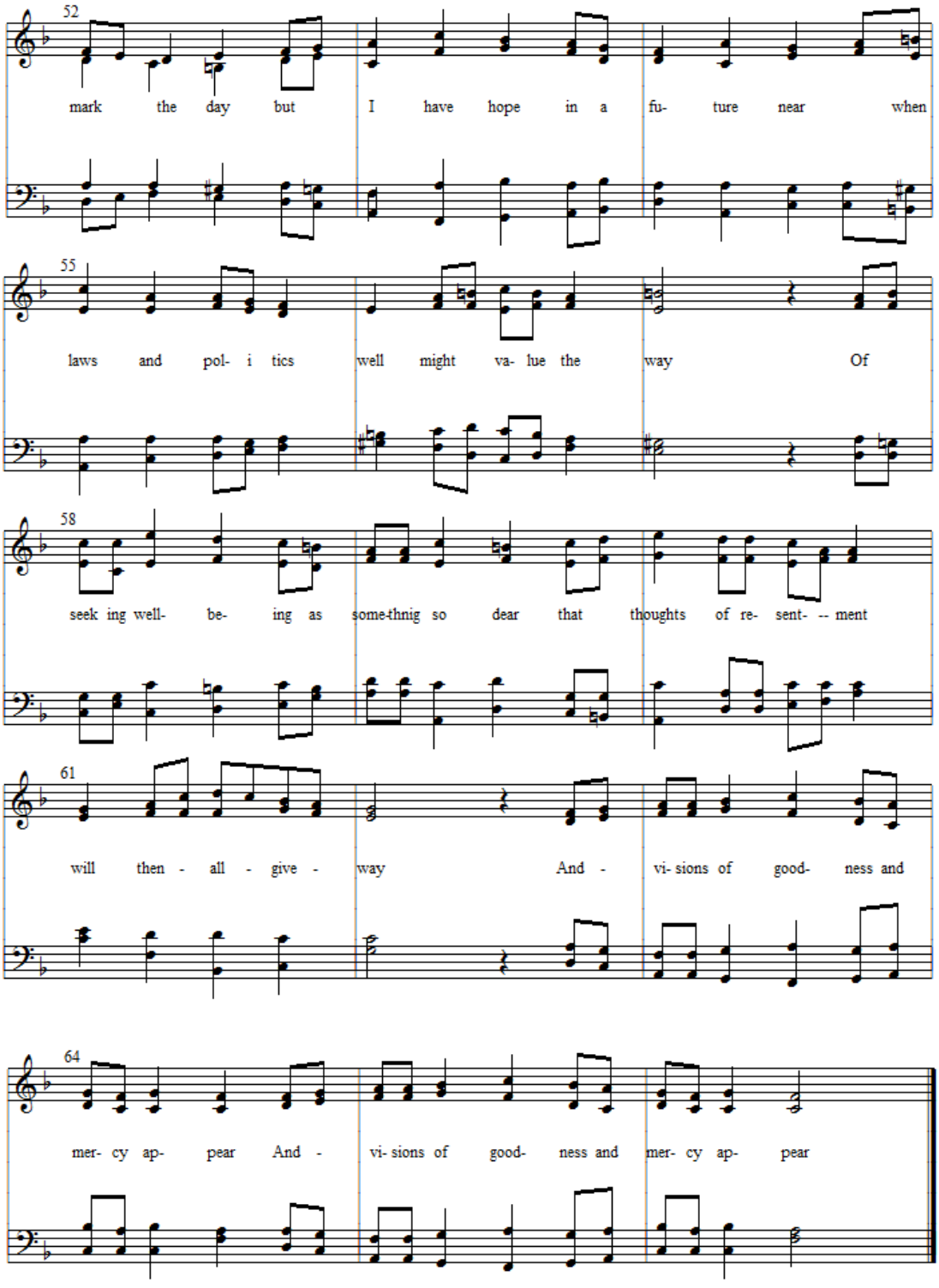



let- ter
33


33
Kill me you may but
To day re- venge may


35
not outof me- rit we can de- serve nei-ther
mark the day but I have hope in a


37
grace nor gloom. If some are luck- y and for- tunein her- it
fu- ture near when laws and pol- i tics well might va- lue the
40
Oth- ers un- luck y in- her- it doom. Re-
way Of seek ing well- be- ing as some-thnig so dear that
43
sent- ment& ha- tred we mustfor- bear it And
thoughts of un- fair- ness will then - all - give - way And -
46
leave our hearts o- penfor love to re-sume And leave our hearts o- pen for
visionsof good- nessand mer-cy ap- pear And - vi- sions of good- ness and
49
love to re- sume Raight now re- venge may
mer- cy ap- pear


52
mark the day but I have hope in a fu- ture near when
55
laws and pol- i tics well might va- lue the way Of
58
seek ing well- be- ing as some-thnig so dear that thoughts of re- sent- -- ment
61
will then - all - give - way And - vi- sions of good- ness and
64
mer- cy ap- pear And - vi- sions of good- ness and mer- cy ap- pear